Rededication of Merchant Navy memorial

THE Merchant Navy monument in the centre of Barry – erected to honour fallen merchant sailors – was rededicated recently.

This took place prior to the Merchant Navy Association's annual seafarers' service.

The Merchant Navy Memorial stands at the entrance to the Vale Council's Civic Offices. The 15-year-old, 23 foot high (seven metres) Portland stone structure was dismantled and removed for repair work, funded by the council, in December and returned in May.

The memorial has been cleaned and slightly reworked to stop rainwater pooling on the stone and causing damage.

The former brass remembrance plaques have been replaced with stainless steel plaques, and the lists of Merchant Seamen from the Vale, who lost their lives during the World Wars, have been updated to include those that were missed off the original plaques.

Hooks for memorial wreaths have also been added to the monument's plinth.

Jim Greenway, chairman of the Barry branch of the Merchant Navy Association, Wales, said: "We're delighted that the council has kept its promise to refurbish the memorial, in other areas of Wales the local Merchant Navy Association have had to raise funds for similar memorials."memorials."

ABOVE: Vale AM Jane Hutt and Vale MP Alun Cairns were also present to pay their respects.

ABOVE: The Vale Council Leader, Coun Neil Moore, places his wreath on the memorial.

ABOVE: A solemn moment as councillors and dignitaries wait to place their wreaths.

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Mechanic died in 'scene of carnage' on M4 motorway

by AJ SICLUNA

A SECTION of the M4 near Bridgend was a "scene of carnage" when an articulated milk tanker careered along the hard shoulder, killing a recovery technician from Penarth who was helping a motorist to change his wheel.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that Mr Richard Cox died instantly after being trapped under the recovery truck.

David Morgan, 36, of Pembrey, near Llanelli, was jailed for three years and disqualified from driving for five years, after he pleaded guilty to causing the death of Mr Cox by dangerous driving.

Said Judge Eleri Rees: "Any vehicle driven badly is a lethal one, all the more so if it is a large articulated tanker,"

She said he had been on a long journey from London, had gone to bed late, been drinking, and was not at his best.

Prosecutor Huw Evans said that at 6.20pm on April 25 last year, David Reed was driving his camper van west along the M4 between junctions 35 and 36 when a tyre blew. He pulled onto the hard shoulder, put his hazard lights on, and called for assistance.

About 45 minutes later, Mr Cox, working for Dragon Rescue, had begun to assist Mr Reed.

He parked his truck behind Mr Reed and illuminated his flashing lights. Mr Cox went under the back of the camper van to retrieve the spare tyre.

Mr Reed's wife and dog stood behind the safety barrier further along the motorway.

Mr Evans said: "Almost as soon as Mr Cox began to recover the tyre, Mr Reed became aware of a large articulated tanker bearing down on them, fully on the hard shoulder."

It was being driven by Morgan, at approximately 55 mph, and went straight into the back of the recovery truck, pushing it along the hard shoulder into the back of the camper van.

Mr Evans said: "The brakes were not applied until the tanker was 0.15 seconds from the crash."

The truck and lorry travelled in an arc across three lanes of the M4 into the central barrier.

Mr Cox was trapped under the recovery truck and died instantly of multiple injuries.

Mr Reed shouted to Mr Cox to "run" and he fell down an embankment. When he crawled back up, he was confronted by a "scene of carnage", said Mr Evans.

Mr Reed's wife was screaming.

Morgan later told the police he could not remember what happened after passing junction 35.

He said he had driven from Carmarthen to Acton and then made the return journey. He said there were no defects on his vehicle, and road conditions had been good.

Mobile phones were examined and it was revealed that Morgan had used his to send and receive about 140 messages.

Mr Evans said there had obviously been a lack of concentration, and Morgan must have been distracted and/or tired.

Mr Cox's family, added Mr Evans, had been "devastated".

Tom Crowther, Morgan's counsel, said his client could not say what happened, though he must have been aware of the risks of fatigue.

The tachograph showed he had not been driving for too long.

"He cannot forgive himself and he does not stop thinking about it. He was injured but recovered.

"He has lost his career and is uninsurable for ever."

Morgan was ordered to take the extended driving test.

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Work starts on Llandough Hospital's £12m car park

WORK on a new £12 million multi-deck car park for the University Hospital Llandough is now under way.

The hospital said the scheme will create extra spaces to help pave the way for future developments on the busy hospital site.

Peter Welsh, the hospital's general manager, said plans were in place to minimise disruption.

He said: "This is a very important development for the hospital, which will create a new modern parking facility for patients, visitors and staff and also open up the possibility of further developments at the hospital."

A reader says 'Let people speak on EU'

SO the EU is skint and is now asking the UK Plc for another massive contribution.

Mr Cameron should tell the EU where to stick their request for more money.

The EU accounts have not been signed off for 17 years, due to unaccounted spending.

The EU is a law unto itself and, it seems, allowed to just carry on.

If any company director or company accountant was found to have fraudulently altered their accounts, they would be thrown in prison.

How any country that believes in trust and honesty, can be part of this corrupt institution is beyond me. Give the people a say on where our future lies.

We could still trade with the EU countries but let's not be part of it.

It's time for Mr Cameron to fulfil his election pledge to give us a referendum on our continued membership of this defunct, corrupt club.

D J Radford, Barry.

Email us your views to: gemeditorial @tindlenews .co.uk

Walk for April

ON Sunday (October 14) at 11am, Vale residents are being asked to gather at Penarth cliff top playground for a short walk down to Penarth Pier, in support of the 'April Jones Fund', set up by Machynlleth Town Council.

Walkers are asked to wear something pink where possible, bring a £1 per person donation and a pink balloon (optional) to release on the seafront/Pier.

Following the walk, there will be refreshments at The Fig Tree restaurant, situated on Penarth seafront.

'DESPITE THE UK CUTS, WALES HAS A BUDGET FOR JOBS AND GROWTH'

WELSH ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

LAST week, I presented the Welsh Government's budget for 2013-14 to the Assembly – with the message to business, families, young people and communities that this was a budget for growth and jobs.

The budget statement provided the facts and figures for the second year of the UK Coalition Government's three year Spending Review cycle. Presenting a balanced budget at a time of cuts in our grant from Westminster is a tough challenge.

By 2014-15 the Welsh Budget will be £2.1bn lower in real terms than at its peak in 2009-10 and around the same level as 2005-6.

Our capital budget has been cut by 45 per cent, which means we have less public money to spend on building new schools, hospitals, roads and housing.

However, I have taken a number of steps to secure new ways of funding our capital programme and use all available resources to meet our needs according to a clear set of priorities in our infrastructure investment plan.

So my £175m capital investment for next year's budget was well received, by business and the construction sector, as this investment will create and protect 3,000 jobs.

As I said last week, to make this happen requires new ways of raising finance; for example, assisting local authorities with a highways improvement borrowing initiative, levering in £2.2m over three years for the Vale of Glamorgan Council, to boost investment in highway improvements schemes.

We have always said we will do all we can to boost capital investment in the face of budget cuts by the UK Government – because we know this is vital to support economic growth and create jobs.

The boost given by the private sector this week with the construction and opening of the Premier Inn and Brewers Fayre in the Waterfront, shows how the regeneration of Barry is a living partnership that is delivering jobs and new prospects for the Vale.

As well as our partners in the private sector, local government and the NHS, last week's budget was also good news for the housing sector, with over 800 affordable homes being funded via our Welsh Housing Partnership with the support of the Principality Building Society and registered social landlords.

I was proud to take the Health Minister, Lesley Griffiths AM to visit the £57m new wing at Llandough University Hospital last week funded by the Welsh Government, with a further £12m investment announced in the budget over the next two years, for the adult mental health acute unit, to replace outdated buildings and facilities at Whitchurch Hospital, and for Glanrhyd Hospital in Bridgend.

Cardiff and Vale College will also benefit from £10m Capital Investment to benefit our young people and flood defence works will include a Vale of Glamorgan scheme.

There will also be increased investment in energy efficiency schemes NEST (£3m), Arbed (£2m) and £10m for next generation broadband.

I have also promised more investment in our enterprise zones and the Wales Economic Growth Fund.

This is a draft budget for 2013-14 and will be considered by our 'cross-party' scrutiny committees in the Assembly, leading to budget debates in November and December.

It will cover our commitments to investing in schools, including support of the pupil deprivation grant, allocated according to the number of pupils receiving free school meals, which formed part of our agreement with the Welsh Liberal Democrats, to secure support for our budget this year.

Our Flying Start preschool programme is on course to double the provision of free childcare and parenting support over this term of the Assembly, and our funding for the new community support officers now sees the new recruits working with the police on our streets.

For our young people. facing the highest levels of youth unemployment for a generation, this budget also funds 4,000 new job opportunities each year for three years, for 16-24 year olds in the private, public and third sectors.

This is backed up by our continuing investment in apprenticeships and support for educational maintenance allowances as well as student support.

This is a budget for growth and jobs for the people and economy of Wales.

We know that this can help take people out of unemployment, can help give our young people the chance they need to succeed, can help maintain and grow businesses, protect jobs in health and education.

We have a responsibility in government to make the case for this investment in our people, our businesses and our communities.

PACT meetings

BARUC PACT, *October 14 from 3.30pm-5.15pm at Amherst Crescent; and then from 5.30pm-7.30pm at Marine Drive.*

ST BRIDES PACT*, Church Hall on October 15 at 6pm.*

GIBBONSDOWN-TREV, The Reassurance and Engagement Vehicle, is at Florence Avenue, Barry (near Colcot School) on October 15 between 1pm-5pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT, *fire station, Druids Green on October 15 at 7pm.*

RHOOSE PACT, *Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way, Rhoose, on October 18 at 7pm.*

ILLTYD PACT, *Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry, on October 24 at 7pm.*

Roadworks report

TEMPORARY traffic controls: Barry Docks Link Road, junction of Coldbrook Road and Argae Lane; Port Road, Barry, at junction with Pencoedtre Lane, Barry; and Five Mile Lane, Barry.

Diamond Champions

FOUR Vale women have been named Diamond Champions – for their outstanding volunteer work.

Mrs Clare Bowen, Mrs Christine Dean, Mrs Betty Jones and Mrs Irene Gannon are among 60 volunteers from Wales announced as Diamond Champions and could meet joint patrons Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall at an event honouring their achievement in St James' Palace on November 29.

Diamond Champions, run by older people's charity WRVS, recognises the contribution that people over the age of 60 make through volunteering.

More than 370 people from Wales were nominated as Diamond Champions.

The 60 Diamond Champions are invited to an event at City Hall in Cardiff on October 15, where they will be presented with a specially designed Diamond Champions pin. They will also receive a certificate signed by the royal patrons.

At the regional celebration, 10 Diamond Champions will be chosen by a Welsh judging panel to join 70 others from across the UK at the event in St James' Palace.

Sally Rivers, WRVS head of services in Wales, said: "They are truly deserving of the honour and it is justified recognition of the selfless work they do in their communities to help others.

"It was incredibly hard to choose 60 Diamond Champions from all the nominations we received; all the nominees are fantastic examples of the incredible volunteering work being done by older people across Wales."

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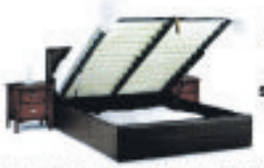

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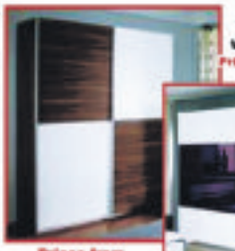

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WORK WILL START SOON ON PENARTH PAVILION PROJECT

A long-held dream to return Penarth Pavilion to its art-deco glory, and vastly improve its visitor facilities, is about to become a reality.

The appointment of Wales' R & M Williams as principal contractor means tthat work will soon begin in earnest.

Paul Twamley, chairman of Penarth Arts and Crafts Limited, which is responsible for Penarth Pavilion, said: "We are at an exciting stage of the project and I am delighted that we have been able to award the contract to a local company.

"The project itself heralds a new era – not only for the Pavilion and the town's seafront, but for the whole of Penarth and the wider south Wales area.

"This is a heritage building of national significance. Its restoration, together with the development of wonderful new facilities, will transform what we will be able to offer to our local community and visitors".

The contract was awarded to Cardiff-based R&M Williams Ltd after a competitive tendering process, and on the basis of the company's long experience in the heritage sector, and its commitment to regeneration and local employment.

Managing director, Darryn Parry, commented: "We are committed to delivering to the people of Penarth and Wales a building which will be as stunning as when it was first constructed. This sort of project doesn't come around very often, and we are extremely proud to be awarded the contract.

"Many of our local tradespersons will relish the opportunity to carry out work on this landmark structure".

The £4 million project will take just over a year to complete.

When it re-opens, Penarth Pavilion will rank alongside some of the most beautiful and best-loved piers in the British Isles.

Facilities will include a cinema, exhibition spaces, bar and a restaurant with a sea view.

The project is financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, BIG Lottery Fund, Welsh Government, Vale Council, CADW and Coastal Communities Fund.

Philanthropic donations include significant sums from the John Paul Getty Foundation, Foyle Foundation, and Headley Trust.

Penarth Arts and Crafts Limited has appointed Mott MacDonald in Cardiff as the project managers. In addition, Chandler KBS are acting as cost managers and advising on the commercial aspects of the funding.

Penarth resident and Vale Council cabinet member for regeneration, Lis Burnett, said: "The Pier Pavilion is a very special building for most local people and I'm delighted to see the progress being achieved.

"We are pleased to be supporting the renovation project ,which will have a huge impact on the future success of our town."

ABOVE: Penarth Pavilion could soon be a flagship building once again.

Tory leader calls for all LDPs to be put on hold

THE Leader of the Welsh Conservatives in the Assembly has called for a moratorium on Local Development Plans (LDPs).

With a revised LDP due to be unveiled in the Vale in November, the South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, who lives in the Vale, said it was vital that the Welsh Government clarified the rationale behind its "often misunderstood and seemingly arbitrary" targets for new housing development.

Mr Davies said: "There is growing controversy over proposals to develop extensively on greenfield sites in my region, as well as proposals that would see small villages doubling in size."

Local pressure was growing, he said, with widespread opposition to proposals in the Vale and Cardiff.

Mr Davies said: "I have met constituents unhappy with the scale and location of developments, including plans in Lavernock, Wenvoe and on the site of Cowbridge Market."

He said that local councils in Wales were bound by strict targets for housing development imposed by the Welsh Government.

He continued: "I am calling for an immediate moratorium on all Local Development Plans. This would give the planning Minister an opportunity to justify the challenging housing projections his government have issued to councils across the country.

"With just five local authorities (out of 22) having submitted completed LDPs, surely this is an opportune moment to put the process on hold.

"Residents need to have confidence that LDPs are based on sound planning guidance and not just the Minister's gut feeling for an area that he and his officials have no local understanding of.

"Both the Welsh Government and local councils need to consider very carefully the huge blight that some of these proposed developments will put on many people's lives, particularly if we end up with widespread development on vast tracts of green open space.

"A moratorium would allow the Welsh Government to justify these targets and would also give local authorities an opportunity to conduct wider public consultation over the kind of development that communities want to see."

NEWS IN BRIEF

XFOR fines issued

LOCAL authority support company XFOR issued 61 fixed penalty notices in the Vale during the week commencing October 1.

XFOR has been tasked by the Vale Council to help tackle dog fouling and littering incidents.

They are taking a zero tolerance approach to environmental crimes, where offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £75 without warning.

CCTV arrests

POLICE made four arrests in Barry during the last week with the help of information provided by the Vale Council's CCTV monitoring team.

CCTV operators contacted the police on 36 occasions during the week ending October 7.

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Toys and trains

A TOY and train sale takes place on Saturday, October 13, at 10.30am–3pm in Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan, CF64 2NS.

Traders from all over Wales, and England, will offer thousands of items, with prices ranging from from a few pounds upwards.

Contact 01643 702757 and 07966 694579, or check the website at www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk.

Collectors' fair

THERE will be an antique and collectors' fair on October 13-14 in the new luxury marquee at Cottrell Park Golf Resort, St Nicholas.

There will be pottery, porcelain, silver, clocks, paintings and jewellery (including a rare silver Chester hallmarked 1906 'Iona' Celtic design brooch.

Entrance £1.50; open 10am-4pm; free car parking.

Diabetes talk

DIABETES UK's voluntary group will meet on Tuesday, October 16, in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth at 7.30pm.

The speaker is a Vale pharmacist and new members or friends will be welcome.

For details, telephone 01446 746639.

Singer song-writer contest

YOUNG people in the Vale are being invited to take part in the original singer song-writer competition – an Arts Connect collaborative competition for young people aged between 14 years and 25 years.

Entrants will have the chance to win a recording session at Machine Rooms, Culverhouse Cross, launch their EP at a regional venue, feature in Plugged music magazine, and perform at high profile events.

Entry forms need to be returned by 5pm on October 18.

Arts Connect is a collaboration between the Vale, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Bridgend and Merthyr councils.

For more information or an application form, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone 01446 709805.

Organ appeal

FOLLOWING last year's successful Music & Monologues evening in aid of All Saints' Organ Appeal, the Gill Davies Players are returning to the Barry church on October 18 with Music & Monologues 2.

Tickets are available from Gill Davies on 01446 409227, or Ann Elliott on 01446 745997 priced at £8 each.

The performance commences at 7.30 pm.

Mini fabric sale

COWBRIDGE Red Cross Group will hold a mini fabric sale on October 18 (at 10.30pm-12.30pm) in its centre at The Broad Shoard.

Also open the day before (same time) for donations to the sale; contact 01446 773987/772131. Free admission.

Breakfast bites

COWBRIDGE Lifeboat branch is offering breakfast bites at the Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Cowbridge, on Saturday, October 20, between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

Coffee host!

A charity coffee morning held at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, October 9, was hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Eric Hacker, and not the Mayor of Barry, as previously stated.

Barry at War expands to Heritage Centre

THE 'Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre' has been chosen as the name for the Barry at War-operated facility at the Barry Tourist Railway Station, Barry Island.

Group chairman, Ade Pitman, explained: "Although our group name suggests that we are only interested in the history of Barry town, our research actually spans the entire length of south Wales.

"Popular with people on our Facebook page, the name 'Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre' helps to portray the inclusive nature of the facility.

"Not only will it be used to gather and share the wartime memories of local people, but it will also signpost heritage tourists and interested people, to the region's other military history locations, such as the many rare Second World War bunkers dotted along the Glamorgan coastline, the Island Farm prisoner-of-war camp near Bridgend, Llandow Airfield, and other museums.

The Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre will be holding an open day on Sunday, November 4, at the Barry Tourist Railway Station, Barry Island.

Call Ade Pitman on 07930 874161 or see the Barry at War website at www.barryatwar.info for more information.

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Sue and Leo are a perfect match!

WHEN Sue Taylor tells people her "perfect match" is a Leo, she isn't talking about horoscopes or star signs.

Mrs Taylor, of Broadlands, became one of Wales' newest guide dog owners when she was paired with Leo the golden Labrador.

She said the partnership has restored her confidence to get out and about independently after her sight began to deteriorate 20 years ago, when her daughter was four.

A series of operations followed, and she eventually decided to apply for a guide dog.

"I had always loved dogs anyway. We already had a pet golden retriever, Misty, but from the moment Leo walked into the room, my life changed, He was going to allow me to be independent."

Intensive training sessions followed, with Mrs Taylor learning how to navigate a route and give Leo the appropriate commands.

The pair qualified as a guide dog partnership in July this year.

"The first time I put Leo's harness on, I got a buzz," said Mrs Taylor. "They say your posture changes when you get a dog and it's true. When you use a long cane, you walk with your head down and at times you are invisible. It can catch in uneven paving and jar your elbow.

PICTURED: Sue Taylor with guide dog Leo.

"Now I have Leo, I am getting more confident and if I do become anxious, I have a friend I can talk to or cwtch.

"My husband Don, who has been brilliant over the years, can now be my husband and not my carer."

Leo proved a star attraction when he visited the Bridgend Feastival last month: "Everyone wanted to make a fuss of him," said Mrs Taylor.

"When he is running free or playing with Misty, he is a two-year-old puppy, but when he is in harness, he is in work mode and his posture actually changes. I say he has his Sat Nav on!

"You don't want to offend people, but when a guide dog is working it should not be distracted. It can be dangerous, especially if you are crossing the road."

Mrs Taylor and Leo will be joining other volunteers at a collection day to mark Guide Dogs Week in Bridgend town centre on Saturday, October 13.

Meanwhile, the grandmother-of-two is planning to spread the word by giving talks to school groups and other organisations.

"A guide dog costs £50,000 from birth to retirement and the service receives no government funding. We rely on donations and legacies from members of the public, for which I am most grateful.

"Leo has totally changed my life."

Miskin pony breeder is honoured

Dr Wynne Davies with his grandchildren, Leah and Joseph. **Photograph by T Best.**

THE Showing World lifetime outstanding achievement award at the Horse Of The Year Show (NEC Birmingham, October 3-7) was presented to Dr Wynne Davies, MBE, of the Ceulan Stud, Miskin, Pontyclun.

It was the first time the award has come to Wales. Dr Davies retired this year after reporting for 'Horse and Hound' magazine for 60 years, and 58 years of reporting the Royal Welsh Show.

He has been assistant/publicity officer of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society for 50 years, president in 1984, main ring commentator at the Royal Welsh Show for 35 years, has written 12 books and judged Welsh ponies and cobs all over the world.

His own Ceulan ponies have won the progeny competition at the Royal Welsh Show 11 times.

The current ponies at Ceulan are descended from those bred by his great-grandfather in 1894, and he is assisted in running the stud by his wife Ruth, children David and Jane, and their children.

Dr Davies also won an award as the breeder of Ceulan Shem, the most consistent Welsh section A ridden pony of the year.

Chefs bring a local flavour to Food and Drink Festival

PREPARATIONS are well under way for this year's Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival.

Supported by Waitrose, the festival showcases the town at its best.

Crowned as Best Community Event at the National Tourism Awards for Wales in 2010 – the festival is one of Wales' most popular events.

The varied programme of food demonstrations sees a number of well-known Vale chefs bringing a distinctly local flavour to events this year.

There is a whole new intimate set-up for the demo area. This is now adjacent to the main exhibition site on North Road, courtesy of John and Sarah at Xantippe.

The new kitchen will play host to a wide variety of cooking demos to suit all palates and abilities, all free of charge.

Taking to the stage this year, are the likes of Cowbridge's David Lawal from Living Coffee, who will be cooking up traditional Jamaican curried goat; the sous chef at Arboreal, Richard Johns, who will be using locally-sourced ingredients for a world-inspired sharing platter; and Aum Rotjarin Scott of the popular Thai Elephant restaurant in Cowbridge.

Vale-based food writer, broadcaster and chef Angela Gray, of Llanerch Vineyard Cookery School, will be running a masterclass at this year's festival, taking place on Sunday afternoon.

Families may also be interested to see St Clare's School, Porthcawl during their demo on Saturday, perfect for young foodies.

Broadcaster Fran Donovan will again play the role of compere extraordinaire.

Event manager Polly Wilson said: "We're really pleased to see so many local chefs and restaurants involved in this year's festival.

"There is set to be a great mix of events, with something for all tastes and I look forward to seeing the new kitchen set-up in operation."

For more information on events, exhibitors and entertainment please visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org.

WHAT'S ON IN BRIEF

Report the potholes!

THE Vale Council's potholes campaign, 'The BIG Fill', moves on to the Illtyd ward, Barry, on October 13 - 14.

Local residents can report potholes between October 8-12). Phone the Vale Council on 01446 700111, email the BIG Fill team at thebigfill@vale-ofglamorgan.co.uk or plot the location of the pothole on the interactive map on the council's website.

Pastel landscapes

ON October 18, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes Abergavenny artist Jantien Powell, who will give a demonstration of painting a landscape in pastels.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge ,7pm–9pm, and visitors are welcome.

For the society's full programme, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Have you suffered an accident at work?

IF you have suffered an accident at work and the accident was not your fault, you may be entitled to claim compensation.

Your employer has a duty to keep you safe whilst at work and should have insurance to cover any workplace accidents.

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Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D743.

- **£2,000:** 339236.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £9,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 684916, 648298, 675980, 285368, 489400, 551885, 334321, 582125, 369669, 778490, 561150, 610970, 878957, 434834, 213849, 786263, 279858, 877126, 656290, 111773.
- **£5:** 251857, 840092, 766493, 194082, 358334, 822174, 267047, 738929, 188834, 505763, 250580, 229993, 600590, 153733, 822179, 623263, 784306, 249820, 186422, 879527, 566384, 701068, 575107, 325244, 984948, 152321, 620903, 478539, 845556, 462880, 927919, 763430, 537360, 609644, 271689, 586993, 572042, 535819, 718418, 358744, 492726, 479007, 679239, 848933, 273769, 782887, 722752, 617930, 379178, 729011, 181973, 608661, 728382, 144094, 899786, 861704, 639267, 184436, 269879, 605420.

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OPEN EVENING: Thursday 18th October 2012 6pm - 8pm
OPEN MORNINGS: Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th October from 9am - 1pm

Astro Turf, Fitness Suite and Pool – Bryn Hafren's sporting facilities are outstanding.

ICT suite – A huge investment in ICT has created excellent opportunities for all pupils.

The staff and pupils of Bryn Hafren welcome parents and children to our Open Week . . .

Our open evening will be held on Thursday 18th October 6pm-8pm. There will be a formal welcome by Head Teacher Mr Phil Whitcombe at both 6pm and 7pm. You are invited to attend either session followed by a guided tour of the school.

The open mornings on 15th, 16th, 17th of October are a wonderful opportunity to see the school in action during the working day and to experience the quality of education and care of which the school is so proud. All prospective parents are welcome, no appointments necessary.

Examination Success:

The examination successes at Bryn Hafren continue with the eighth year of rising GCSE results. In 2012 the percentage of pupils gaining 5 or more A* to C was an all time record of 74%, a rise of 33% over the last eight years.

Mr Whitcombe, Headteacher was delighted by the academic performance of the pupils, including an incredible 96% of pupils who gained at least 5 GCSEs A to G. The value added at all Key Stages is well ahead of our targets and the performance of similar schools in Wales.

This year an all time record 47% of pupils gained at least 10 top grade GCSEs with a significant number gaining 14 or more. The GCSE results marked another outstanding year of examination success for Bryn Hafren pupils.

Curriculum:

Bryn Hafren offers a rich, broad and balanced curriculum with lessons being taught in modern high specification rooms. The school is just completing the refurbishment of the Design Technology Department which includes four workshops and a computer suite and The Media Department with two specifically designed and equipped rooms. In addition all the Science Laboratories, ICT suites, Art department, Food Technology and Learning Resource Centre have recently been refurbished. Recent building additions include a Hair and Beauty suite and an Astro Turf area. The curriculum has further been enhanced by the addition of Wider Key Skills at KS3, giving pupils an equivalent of 2 GCSEs at grade B. The Welsh Baccalaureate is studied in KS4 and KS5, giving the pupils additional and vital qualifications as they move into further education or employment. The provision of extra curricular activities is an outstanding feature of the school and extends pupils' learning experiences.

Pastoral Care:

The school is very proud of the pastoral care given to all pupils. We strive to create a happy, working atmosphere where all pupils are valued and encouraged to fulfil their potential. The Year Heads and Form Tutor system offers good support and guidance in a caring community. Progress is monitored and individual pupils are encouraged to achieve academic success in a fully inclusive environment. The school works closely with parents via Form Tutor and Parents' Evenings through the year. In addition the school welcomes individual contact with parents as required.

The Performing Arts Department produced a highly successful production of The Wizard of Oz with over 100 from all year groups involved. They are currently rehearsing for the next production The Sound of Music which will run in November at The Memorial Hall.

Science – One of the newly refurbished Science Laboratories

Residential experiences include language and culture courses as well as outdoor pursuits. Pupils recently visited Mt Vesuvius, Sorrento, Italy.

Awards ceremony – All pupils are regularly rewarded for good attendance, effort improvement and excellence in lessons.

The Learning Resource Centre is available for pupil use before school, break and lunchtimes as well as after school.

'FoI request shows Council is being short-changed on social care budget'

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

A PLAID CYMRU Vale councillor says that local authorities will struggle to balance their social care budgets after recent Government legislation.

Coun Chris Franks told The GEM that the Vale Council will face a shortfall of £1.4 million because the Welsh Government has failed to properly fund a £50 a week cap on social care.

He said: "Plaid Cymru has discovered this information following a Freedom of Information (FoI) request."

The £50 a week cap, which means that no one should pay more than £50 per week, was introduced under the One Wales Government.

Coun Franks said that it has meant that thousands of additional people, who were paying more for their care previously, are now applying for services provided by the local authority.

Coun Frank said: "In the Vale of Glamorgan, the shortfall is more than £1.4m, after an additional 184 people applied for non-residential care since the £50 a week limit was introduced in April 2011."

Lindsay Whittle, Plaid Cymru's social services spokesperson and a former Caerphilly council leader, said: "The £50 a week cap was introduced by the Plaid Labour Coalition Government, but it now appears that this beneficial scheme is not being funded properly by the Labour government.

"Last year, a study by the Social Services Improvement Agency (SSIA) warned about additional pressures on local authority budgets as a result of the new community charge charges system, and highlighted increasing demand, particularly from older people who were previously self-funders."

Luke Nicholas, Plaid Cymru's candidate for the forthcoming Cardiff South and Penarth Parliamentary by-election, said: "The Welsh Government's failure to properly deliver on its promise to cap social charges is undermining the finances of councils who will be forced to cut services or raise council tax to cover the shortfall."

Coun Franks, a former South Wales Central AM, said that councillors had been made aware of the vast shortfall.

He added: "The Vale of Glamorgan's social services budget is in crisis – it is £3m overspent. The Welsh government has been willing to bail out health boards with far greater shortfalls, yet won't provide local authorities with the finances to limit the charges they make to elderly residents."

The FoI revealed that Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) appeared to have a much smaller problem, compared to the Vale.

It had 3,057 people in receipt of non-residential care on March 31, 2012, up by 10.8 per cent compared to April 2011.

Plaid says that the changes have given BCBC a shortfall of £678,000. Extra cash received from the Welsh Government amounts to £420,000, leaving a notional shortfall of £258,000 .

The Vale Council had 1,047 people in receipt of non-residential care, with an extra 184 applying for care since April 2011.

Coun Franks said: "This means the Vale Council has had to find an extra £1.78 million, but has received only £373,000 from the Welsh Government. This leaves a shortfall of £1,407,000.

A Welsh Government source said: "As usual, Plaid Cymru are taking a deliberately distorted view of the facts, to try and scare voters in advance of a Westminster by-election campaign. Once again, the irony of this stunt has not been missed.

"The fact is, that based on estimates of the cost to local authorities to implement financial safeguarding for all service users, they will pay no more than £50 per week for all of their non-residential care.

"The Welsh Government provided an additional £10.1 million a year to the revenue support grant to local government from 2011-12 to recompense councils for lost income from lower charges.

"The Welsh Government is prioritising funding to local authorities to support social services. Over the period 2011-12 to 2013-14, we are committed to increasing funding at one per cent better than the uplift to the Block Grant to Wales.

"This means an additional £35 million over the period for local authority social services. The latest statistical release on budgeted expenditure by local government for 2012-13, published by Welsh Government, shows expenditure on social services is budgeted to increase by four per cent."

At a recent meeting of the Vale Council's scrutiny committee for social care and health, it was revealed that, during 2011/2012, social services spent £18.2m on services that were provided via contractual arrangements with the independent sector.

Of this amount, £10.7m was spent on care home services (which includes nursing and residential care) and £7.5m on domiciliary care services (which includes home care and day care services).

Community council attacks proposals to develop land

A "PACKED" public meeting in Ewenny Village Hall recently voiced its opposition to plans by the Picton-Turbervill Estate to develop a patch of land off Abbey Road, Ewenny, which is designated as 'green wedge'.

The outline planning application by the Picton-Turbervill Estate proposes to erect five dwellings in the field that is off Abbey Road, near to the Wick Road junction, as an 'enabling development' to facilitate the restoration of the Ewenny Priory House.

Around 70 people attended the meeting, and the community council successfully obtained an extension to the consultation period for letters to the Vale planning department, which were to be submitted by October 11.

The clerk for the community council told The GEM, on behalf of the body: "The residents are not happy at all. Who is going to benefit from this?" She added that nobody in the village had had access to the priory or grounds in recent times.

"People have bought houses here because they are looking at a green wedge. If they obtain outline planning then that opens the floodgates to more development.

"Abbey Road is a narrow, single-lane road and then when you enter Wick Road, the main road through the village, there is nasty congestion. There have been some small accidents and now a big one is waiting to happen. More cars would make things worse.

"This is a great sadness to us all if it goes ahead. It is the beginning of the end for Ewenny, the thin end of the wedge."

A statement on behalf of the Picton-Turbevill estate said that the site was identified as not "causing any material harm" to the green wedge.

It continued: "The Priory is a Grade II* listed building situated within an important national monument. There is now a genuine and pressing need to raise substantial funds for a restoration scheme in order to ensure the continued survival of the property which has fallen into considerable disrepair over the last 30 years.

"The owners have submitted the planning application as enabling development and the planning authority may be expected to ensure that the proceeds are ring-fenced for the restoration scheme by way of a formal legal agreement or conditional controls."

Leigh Gruffydd Sanders

Free swimming lessons for elderly

WORLD Arthritis Day is on October 12, and Halo Leisure is inviting people of all ages, living with rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases in Bridgend county borough, to visit one of its centres at Bridgend, Pyle, Pencoed, Ogmore, Garw, Ynysawdre and Maesteg, for advice and guidance on getting more physically active.

The day provides a platform to highlight some of the issues that people living with rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis face.

These conditions affect an estimated 120 million men, women and children of all ages across Europe, a spokesperson explained:

"If you are 60 or over, you can get free swimming, and free swimming lessons, as part of the Welsh Government's free swim initiative – ask at your local Halo pool at Bridgend, Maesteg, Pyle, Pencoed or Ynysawdre."

Age Concern appear on TV

ABOVE: Charles Curran with The One Show's Lucy Siegle.

AGE CONCERN Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan were "thrilled and excited" to appear on the BBC's *One Show* during the evening of Wednesday, September 16.

They recruited 31 new volunteers at the live filming at the Motorpoint Arena.

There is still the opportunity for volunteers to come forward.

For further information, visit www.volunteeraccardiff.org.uk or telephone 02920 560952 for an informal chat.

Christmas Child shoebox appeal

A BRIDGEND optician is helping disadvantaged and vulnerable youngsters receive Christmas gifts this year by collecting shoe boxes filled with toys for the Operation Christmas Child appeal.

The global annual appeal, organised by charity Samaritan's Purse, provides gifts to needy children in more than 100 countries.

Last year, the store filled a total of 70 shoe boxes and, with the help of the community, it hopes to repeat that success this year.

Ann Simpkin, director of Specsavers Bridgend, said: "Christmas is a time for giving, but that doesn't necessarily mean gifts for just our loved ones. This should also be a time for us to give to the less fortunate and show them that we care.

"We hope that local people give generously to make a disadvantaged child's Christmas a happier one."

People wanting to donate a box should specify whether theirs is intended for a boy or girl, as well as an age category: two-four-years-old, five-nine, or 10-14, which organisers say must be made clear on the outside packaging.

The boxes will be dispatched to Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. A donation of £2.50 for each box should also be made for the associated delivery costs that the charity is charged. The closing date for all boxes and donations is Thursday, November 15.

To donate a shoe box, visit the Specsavers store on Adare Street.

Suggested toys include: soft toys, tennis balls, finger puppets, jigsaw puzzles, yo-yos, building blocks and small musical instruments.

For boys: trucks and cars; for girls: dolls, clip on earrings, small items of jewellery.

Educational supplies can include: felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, colouring book, notepad, picture or puzzle book, chalk, pencil case, stickers.

Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of soap and flannel, while other items can include: non-chocolate sweets (sell-by date to be at least March of the following year), gloves, scarf, sunglasses, caps and hats.

Friends formed

PENARTH residents have formed Friends of St Augustines church, to help preserve the Grade I listed building.

One of famous Victorian architect William Butterfield's finest buildings, it is currently maintained by a much smaller congregation than when it was built in 1866, and they cannot be expected to carry this burden alone for much longer on behalf of the community as a whole, spokeswoman Patricia Griffiths explained.

"Friends of St Augustine's will complement fundraising activities run by the parish, to ensure that the church building is repaired and maintained in a manner deserving of a unique local landmark.

"Our main aim is to ensure that this iconic building, used by sailors for generations as a 'seamark', and known by locals as 'Top Church' remains a building we can be proud of, is around for future generations to enjoy, and is better known and used for a variety of activities by more people."

For further information, contact 02920 707828 or email triciagriffiths65@yahoo.co.uk.

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To find out more about these ideas, please visit our website: ***www.changingforthebetter.org.uk*** where you will find a range of information, including documents and videos; plus details of how you can feedback your views.

And please come and meet us – we're holding a series of information drop-in days, (details below) across Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend. **Please refer to the website for further information**

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VENUE / VENUE	DATE / DATE	
The Pavillion, Porthcawl, Bridgend / Y Pafiliwn, Porthcawl, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	11am - 7pm	17 Hyd / Oct
Scout & Guide Headquarters, Brynmill, Abertawe / Pencadlys y Sgowtiaid a'r Geidiaid, Brynmill, Abertawe	11am - 7pm	22 Hyd / Oct
Carnegie Hall, Skewen, Neath / Carnegie Hall, Sgiwen, Castell-nedd	11am - 7pm	26 Hyd / Oct
Maesteg Leisure Centre, Bridgend / Canolfan Hamdden Maesteg, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	11am - 7pm	31 Hyd / Oct
Croeserw Community Centre, Port Talbot / Canolfan Gymunedol Croeserw, Port Talbot	11am - 7pm	2 Tach / Nov
Gorseinon Centre, Swansea / Canolfan Gorseinon , Abertawe	11am - 7pm	8 Tach / Nov
Grand Theatre, Swansea / Theatr y Grand, Abertawe	11am - 7pm	13 Tach / Nov
Arts Centre, Pontardawe, Neath / Canolfan y Celfyddydau, Pontardawe, Castell-nedd	11am - 7pm	16 Tach / Nov
ARC Centre, Bridgend / Canolfan ARC , Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	11am - 7pm	22 Tach / Nov
Morriston Leisure Centre, Swansea / Canolfan Hamdden Treforys, Abertawe	11am - 7pm	28 Tach / Nov
Gendros Community Centre, Swansea / Canolfan Gymunedol Gendros, Abertawe	11am - 7pm	6 Rhag / Dec
Pyle Life Centre, Bridgend / Canolfan Bywyd y Pîl, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr	11am - 6pm	29 Hyd / Oct
Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot / Theatr y Dywysoges Frenhinol, Port Talbot	11am - 7pm	19 Tach / Nov
St. Hilary's Church Hall, Killay / Neuadd Eglwys St Hilary, Cilâ	12pm - 7pm	26 Tach / Nov
Neath Town Hall, Neath / Neuadd y Dref, Castell Nedd	11am - 7pm	30 Tach / Nov

Additional date and venue in Bridgend – awaiting confirmation. Contact us below for details'
Dyddiad a lleoliad ychwanegol ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr – i'w cadarnhau. Cysylltwch â ni am fanylion.

Changing For The Better Team, ABMU Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Baglan, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR
Tim Newid Er Gwell, Pencadlys ABM, Un Porthfa Talbot, Baglan, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR
Phone / Ffon: 01792 704019 Email / Ebost: ***ABM.C4B@wales.nhs.uk***

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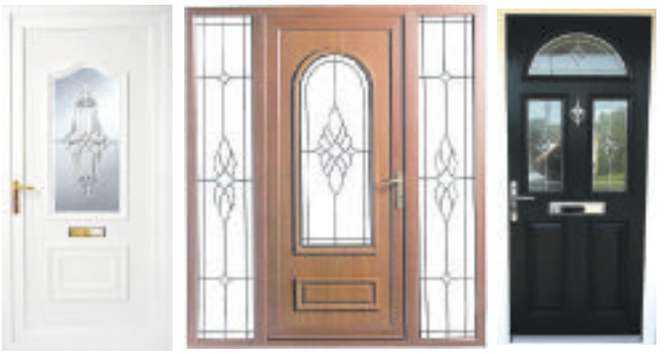

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AUTUMN "in the home"

Blazing a trail in the autumn months

*In this article, **HANNAH STEPHENSON** takes a look at some of the trees and other plants which will be providing us with magnificent autumn hues – plus, find out what else needs doing in the garden this month.*

A RICH tapestry of colour is enveloping our landscape as leaves turn golden, orange and even red, thanks to a massive growth of foliage during the wet summer, followed by cold nights.

The trees and other plants which will be providing us with magnificent hues include the maple and Japanese maple, native oak trees, Nyssa sinensis and Parrotia persica (Persian ironwood).

The winter-flowering cherry, stag's horn sumach, sorbus (wild mountain ash) and varieties of cornus can also paint a palette of vivid colours.

Following a wet summer, the recent warm weather has resulted in the production of lots of chlorophyll and increased sugar levels in trees.

When the night-time temperature falls, it sends a message to the tree to stop growing and then the leaves will start turning, breaking down the chlorophyll to reveal autumnal pigments in shades of red, orange and yellow.

Venturing out on autumn walks may give you inspiration to grow some colourful specimens in your own garden. Maple, vine and mahonia leaves offer shades of red, while sedum flowerheads provide subtle russet tones which will stay on the plant well into winter.

In larger gardens, use trees carefully so that their rich hues are a highlight, rather than just a small part of an extremely busy planting scheme.

Keep green as your main colour in the garden because if you cram it with coloured foliage it can be far from restful.

Some trees take on more refined, subtle shades, such as yellow birch (Betula alleghaniensis) with its beautiful buttery yellow foliage, or the common beech (Fagus sylvatica), which turns a glorious shade of copper.

If you are going to plant a maple, avoid planting it in windy, exposed sites as its fragile leaves will be shredded. The best time to plant is autumn, when the soil is still warm, to give the trees time to establish before winter sets in.

Maples thrive in well-drained soil enriched with some well-rotted garden compost and will do well in full sun or dappled shape, and are ideal growing in the gentle shade of larger trees, provided their planting hole isn't completely swamped with the roots of the larger specimen.

Dig in leafmould to give the tree a boost. They shouldn't need much pruning, just snip out any dead shoot tips as the buds begin to open in spring.

Here's five of the best trees which you shouldn't be without in autumn:

Cornus kousa 'Satomi': This amazing flowering dogwood offers something for every season. In autumn the leaves turn fiery red and orange, while large, deep-pink, star-shaped bracts appear in late spring. It also bears strawberry-like fruits in late summer that continue into winter.

Nyssa sinensis: The deciduous leaves on the Chinese tupelo provide a wide array of autumn colours, from mellow yellows to fiery reds.

It thrives in acid soil and you'll need to give it plenty of room, as it grows up to 10m (30ft) in height and width.

Sorbus-x 'Joseph Rock': This popular small tree was introduced to the west after it was found in China in the early 20th century by the famed plant hunter, Joseph Rock. This Chinese mountain ash has cool green, feather-like leaves which turn fabulous shades of blood red in autumn before falling.

Its stunning autumn colour is complemented by large clusters of bright yellow fruit.

Euonymus europaeus 'Red Cascade': Seen either as a shrub or trained as a small tree, this form of our native hedgerow spindle boasts a combination of bright red autumn foliage, turning purple as it ages, which colours at the same time as its generous crops of red and orange fruits. It's an adaptable plant, happy in most reasonable soils in sun or light shade and growing to 3m (10ft).

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18)

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AUTUMN IS HERE
"Jobs to do around the

Who wants to build what and where in Vale?

Taylor Wimpey – **Land south of the railway line, Trem Echni, Rhoose Point, Rhoose** – Proposed development of 90 residential units with associated public open space, landscaping, the creation of two new access points into the site from trem Echni and diversion of the Public Right of Way.
Mr T Salter – **51 Coleridge Avenue, Penarth** – Application for renewal of permission 2007/00674/FUL; second storey extension, new garage, ground floor rear conservatory.
Clare Pullon – **Kelowna, St Hilary** – Removal of three conifer trees on access drive. Minor reductions on one lime tree and one beech tree in the rear garden.
Mrs Dorothy Harris – **Tymynydd Farm, Welsh St Donats** – Creation of new access, farm building and associated works.
Mrs Janig Stephens – **Pen y Bryn, Llanmaes, Llantwit Major** – Conversion of two existing barns into two dwellings.
Mr Rob Ashman – **25 Samson Street, Llantwit Major** – Proposed single storey rear extension to property, inclusive of velux windows and bifold doors.
Mr Justin Otto – **Parkside House, 1 and 2 Park Road, Penarth** – Certificate is sought to confirm development pursuant to planning permission 2007/01684/FUL as commenced.
Mrs Simone Johnson – **2 Co-operative House, Rock Road, St Athan** – Change of use from A1 shop to A1 shop and holistic therapy rooms.
Mr and Mrs Leighton Kellaway – **The Rickyard, Upper Farm, Rhoose Road, Rhoose** – Proposed double garage with home office/store above.
Mr Paul Richards – **14 Pembroke Terrace, Penarth** – First floor rear balcony.
Valad Developments (Llantrisant) Ltd – **Land adjacent to Cowbridge Road and A473 (inc Leeks Department Store, former Purolite works and Staedtler factory site), Talbot Green, CF72 8XU** – Development of new town centre comprising a 10,801 sq m gross food store (Class A1); 8 pump petrol filling station; 35,522 sq m gross retail floor space (Class A1); 600sq m gross cafe space (Class A1); 1,000 sq m financial/professional service space (Class A1); 2,390 sq m gross food and drink space Class A3); 1,400 sq m gross office space (Class B1); 750 sq m gross Class D1 space; 8 screen cinema; 80 bed hotel; 64 dwellings (Class C2/C3); multi storey and surface level car parking; associated access infrastructure, reprofiling of land. Landscaping and floor alleviation works (further information comprising Environmental Statement addendum, Design and Access Statement addendum and revised plans received August 2012).
Welsh Government – **Cardiff Grounds Disposal Site, Cardiff** – Disposal of dredged arising associated with offshore works at Hinkley Point C.

Getting the right trees this autumn

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17)

Katsura (Cercidiphyllum japonicum): The heart-shaped green leaves of this dainty woodland tree turn to rich colours of yellow, orange and red leaves in autumn and produce the sweet scent of caramel or candyfloss as they fall.

This tree, which works well as a stand-alone specimen, should be planted in soil enriched with organic matter in a sheltered spot, as the coppery young leaves are prone to spring frost damage.

Best of the bunch - Japanese maple (Acer palmatum).

Of course, these wonderfully elegant trees are the jewel in the crown of autumn and there is a variety for every size of garden, whether you want to plant them as part of a scheme or as a stand-alone specimen in a pot.

Good container varieties include Acer palmatum var. dissectum 'Garnet', with its feathery, garnet-coloured leaves that turn bright scarlet in autumn and look as if they have been shredded. Its rounded, compact habit makes it a perfect focal point for a small garden, particularly in a container.

What to do this week:

Continue to plant up winter pots, adding bulbs to extend the season of interest into spring.

Take cuttings of lavender by pulling whole shoots away from the main stem with a heel. They can be rooted directly into gritty soil outside, or in a cold frame.

Take hardwood cuttings of privet, potentilla, rosemary, berberis, laurel and holly.

Feed your lawn with a low-nitrogen fertiliser sold as autumn lawn feed, and repair small bare patches by sowing seed.

Thin out oxygenating and floating plants which have outgrown their space in the pond.

Start pruning climbing roses when the flowers fade, removing dead or diseased wood first.

Dig up bulbs and corms of non-hardy summer varieties to store in a dry, frost-free place over winter.

Sparingly water potted cyclamen in the greenhouse that were dried off for summer to encourage them back into growth.

Plant out hardy primulas raised from seeds or divisions.

Sow hardy annuals including cornflowers, poached-egg plants and California poppies outside now for flowering next year.

RICS sees hopeful signs in Welsh housing market

LOCAL estate agents are starting to see an improvement in the market – according to an industry survey.

The Welsh housing market should see a slightly stronger end to the year, with transaction levels expected to pick up and price falls predicted to slow, according to the latest Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) UK housing market survey (October 9).

During September, chartered surveyors' expectations for future sales reached their highest level since June.

An RCIS spokesperson said that last month, prices in the Welsh housing market did continue to fall, but at a slower pace than in previous months.

David E Baker FRICS, of David Baker Co Ltd., Penarth, said: "September has been fairly good, with more viewings than expected.

"More offers were made than in August, and it is looking reasonable for October and maybe November."

Tony Filice, RICS Wales residential spokesperson and director of Kelvin Francis Chartered Surveyors, Cardiff, said: "Sales are taking place where vendors are prepared to be flexible on price and this is particularly prevalent in the upper price range stock.

"The proposal to allow parents and grandparents to act as guarantors, in order for their offspring to obtain mortgage finance, is good news, but as this is not coming into force until 2015, this is no use at present.

"The help is needed now. We would welcome a stamp duty holiday for first time buyers, even if just for three months, to help the market pick up and get buyers in Wales onto the property ladder sooner rather than later."

'WE HAVE TOOLS TO GET JOB DONE'

R & T Tool & Plant Hire recently helped the oil spill clean-up at Tredodridge.

At 6.30am on Friday morning, the phone started ringing at R & T Tool & Plant Hire with equipment hire orders to help with the emergency project at Tredodridge.

Our 1.5 tonne mini excavator and one tonne hi-lift dumper were on site first thing to help get the clean-up started and as the work progressed, we were able to supply another hi lift dumper and a larger three tonne excavator to help increase the pace of the clean-up.

Based locally at the Vale Business Park, Llandow, we have a wide range of tool and plant equipment available for hire.

Whatever the project from big to small – building project, laying a new patio, digging the garden or cutting logs ready for winter, we have the tools to help you get the job done.

AUTUMN "in the home"

Bridgend County Care and Repair Agency

Helping our vulnerable residents to stay warm

BRIDGEND County Care and Repair is working with npower's 'Health Through Warmth' scheme to help local residents whose health is made worse by cold living conditions to improve the levels of warmth, comfort and quality of life for vulnerable people.

Living in a home without adequate heating can increase the risk of worsening health at any time of year, especially when people have illnesses.

Health Through Warmth works with Care and Repair Cymru to enable caseworkers to apply for funding help from the npower 'Health Through Warmth Crisis Fund' for their clients who meet the scheme's criteria and who need heating and insulation measures but can't afford to fully fund the work themselves.

Illnesses that can be adversely affected by cold living conditions include respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, arthritis, terminal illness, mental health problems and mobility difficulties.

Mary Brice (80) is one local resident who was helped by the scheme when her boiler broke down. Mary has arthritis and pulmonary fibrosis which can be severely affected by the cold. Her central heating system was more than 30 years old and was constantly breaking down, leaving her without heating and hot water for prolonged periods of time.

Mary explains: "I'm so pleased to have a warm home again and to be without the worry of another breakdown. I'm grateful for the assistance from Care and Repair and to both npower Health Through Warmth and the charities that helped to fund the work."

To contact your local Care and Repair Agency, call 0300 111 3333. For details about Health Through Warmth, visit: www.healththrough-warmth.com.

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In the latest inspection, St Richard Gwyn was judged to be a "Good" school because of our standards achieved and the positive attitudes of our pupils to work and school life.

Top performers in 2012.

Year 7PGL activity trip September 2012

Watersports Trip Summer 2012 .

ABOVE AND RIGHT: An excellent Creative Arts department which produces innovative and enjoyable drama productions.

LEFT: St Richard Gwyn's Welsh National Basketball Champion team for 2012.

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Ski Trip December 2011.

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ST RICHARD GWYN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrates 25 years at the 'Top of the Class'

Jubilee celebration coincides with launch of 'Year of Faith'

IN just a few days time, St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School will mark its Silver Jubilee – and there is an open invitation to former pupils and members of staff, and parents whose youngsters have attended the school, to take part in the celebrations.

On October 20, from 12 noon to 4pm, the '25 Year Reunion' will be a day of nostalgia, a time to look to the future and an event launched by a special visitor.

His Grace, George Stack, the Archbishop of Cardiff, will celebrate Holy Mass – and there will be the chance for people to meet up with old school friends or work colleagues, have photos taken, enjoy a tour of the school, try today's school dinners, and watch the Old Boys' football match.

Souvenir booklets with photos from the last 25 years will be on sale, and photos on the day will be taken by a professional photographer.

Mrs Nicky Price, the school's chaplain, emphasised that a key part of the celebrations would be the Archbishop launching the 'Year of Faith' in the school.

"Pope Benedict XVI declared the Year of Faith, which encourages people to think about, or to rediscover, their faith and it is very important to us as a Catholic school."

The Year of Faith runs from today, October 11, until November 24, 2013.

St Richard Gwyn is funded by the church and is the only secondary faith school in the Vale.

The school dates back to 1965.

Mrs Price explained: "It was originally called St Cadoc's. In 1987, the Cardiff area set up the tertiary system – the school was renamed St Richard Gwyn and it took pupils aged from 11 to 16. A new sixth form – St David's College – was opened at the same time in Cardiff."

Nowadays, the school takes youngsters from St Joseph's Primary School in Penarth and St Helen's Primary School in Barry – along with Christian youngsters from across the Vale, and young people of other faiths. Some pupils attend from Cardiff.

The school is 650 strong and has a staff of 39 teachers and 21 support staff. Its strong faith-based ethos and the high standards recognised in ESTYN reports means it is over-subscribed.

Mrs Price said the key aim of the school was to help each individual pupil "become the fullest human being they are meant to be" as a child of God.

Mr Dave Short, the head of pastoral care, stressed: "We are interested in the spiritual and moral aspect of a pupil – in fact, the child as a whole person. All the children in the school are noticed."

On the day The GEM visited the school, the school staff knew all the names of the children reporting to the reception area requesting help.

Mr Short said that St Richard Gwyn was recognised for its excellent "sector-leading practice in the care of children and providing opportunities for them".

Three years ago, a committee of the Welsh Assembly was impressed by the maturity of St Richard Gwyn's head girl when she spoke to them – she was just 15-years-old!

It's hardly surprising then that with the commitment of the staff at St Richard Gwyn, youngsters have excelled in a wide range of areas: at Britain's top universities, in NASA, in the European Parliament, in developing countries across the globe, in charitable work and the sporting arena.

The school motto is *Optimum Tantum* – 'only the best is good enough for God', something both staff and pupils strive to live out in their daily lives.

SEE MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 22.

Dr Kay Swinburne MEP
congratulates
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All the governors, staff and students of St David's Catholic Sixth Form College, Cardiff want to wish our partner school St Richard Gwyn congratulations on their 25th anniversary. We can look forward to a further excellent 25 years of partnership.
St David's are pleased to invite all year 11 students and parents from St Richard Gwyn to an open evening in St David's Catholic Sixth Form College on the 8th November, 4pm-8pm. We hope to meet you soon.
Visit the website to find out more:
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St Richard Gwyn prepares to mark landmark Jubilee

Flying the school banner! St Richard Gwyn pupils and the head of pastoral care, Mr Dave Short, in King Square, Barry letting local people know about the 25 Year Reunion event at the school.

PUPILS of St Richard Gwyn joined forces with the Vale of Glamorgan Band recently to promote their Jubilee celebrations taking place at the school on October 20.

A school spokesman said: "They also helped to raise money for a brass band in Haiti which is still dealing with the devastating aftermath of the 2010 earthquake

"The school is inviting anyone associated with it in the past, including former pupils, staff and parents to join them on the day."

For more information about the Jubilee, please contact the school on 01446 729250 email admin@strichardgwyn.co.uk.

ABOVE: St Richard Gwyn pupils are strong supporters of the Fairtrade movement.

ABOVE: St Richard Gwyn's basketball team have been Welsh schools' champions for three years.

ABOVE: Can you name any of the members of staff in this photograph which was taken around 1972?

VOLUNTEERS GET STUCK IN AT NATURE RESERVE!

MORE than 50 volunteers came together to work at the East Aberthaw Nature Reserve for the annual conservation day.

Helpers ranged from year-12 students in Llantwit Major Comprehensive to teams from Lafarge and the Welsh Government.

Local residents and Aberthaw Power Station staff also worked on various tasks at the nature reserve, which is owned by the power station and managed in conjunction with the Wildlife Trust.

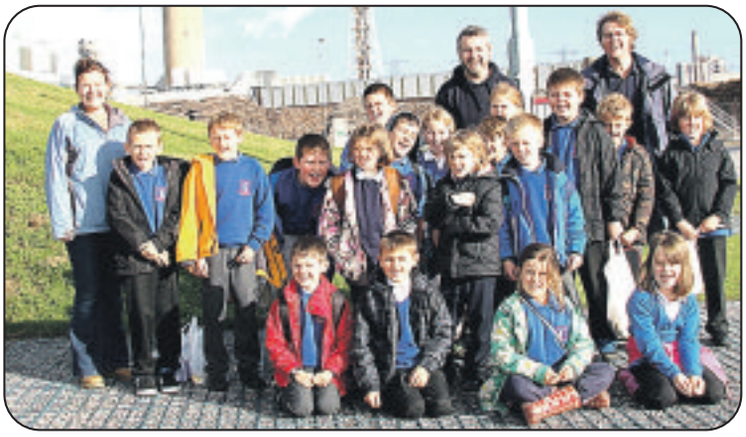
The power station sponsored the event and received support from site contractors towards the facilities.

Due to the weather this year, weeds had encroached onto one of the main paths, and there was water-logging in some areas.

A spokeswoman said: "Drainage channels were created and wood chip laid, as well as the weeds cut back to expose the path and water channel that provides vital habitats for the wide variety of birds, insects and mammals that live at the reserve.

"Year-4 pupils from Eagleswell Primary School took part in a nature day to coincide with the event. After learning about different habitats at the ACE2 building at the power station, the children walked to the reserve for a bug, bird and berry hunt.

"It was a busy day for the reserve, with some excellent results and many an interesting find."



ABOVE: Eagleswell Primary School pupils came along for the conservation day.

ABOVE: Some of the volunteers who helped on the day.

ABOVE: Nigel Ajax Lewis, of the wildlife trust, helps a pupil identify a caterpillar.

Charity support

A BARRY councillor, Richard Bertin, has signed up to be a regular donor of the Tall Ships Youth Trust.

He will give up some of his monthly allowance to the UK sail training organisation dedicated to the personal development of young people.

Coun Bertin said: "This is a fantastic group and I am pleased to support them."

Beer festival

THIS year's Barry West End Beer Festival takes place on October 12-14 at the clubhouse.

The club has been the CAMRA club of the year for the Vale and Bridgend for the last seven years, and the real ale festival is a popular fixture.

Real ales available will include: O5 Gold, Thunderbird, Cwtch, Bishops Finger, Welsh Red and Ghost Ship.

Local Scouts say thanks

BARRY District Scouts have given a big thank you to RWE who have purchased new sails for their Topper Dinghies.

Dr Mark Picton, a manager at Aberthaw Power Station and Alun Cairns MP for the Vale attended a ceremony at the Sea Cadet Boating Base where Dr Picton was presented with a token of thanks by the District Commissioner Keith Williams.

They also examined the new pontooning provided by grants from the Vale of Glamorgan Grant and Barry Youth Watersports.

They were taken for a short sail in the boats with Nigel Vick, Barry District Scout treasurer and RYA sailing coach.

The boats then spent the weekend on the water giving many Scouts their first experience of sailing, as part of the Water Activity Weekend, which was visited by Bear Grylls the Chief Scout.

Businessmen are spared jail after appeal

A Llantwit Major motor insurer and his father-in-law have been spared serving a jail sentence on health grounds.

Harbinder Singh Panesar made his money through his insurance company, Motorcare Warranties, which collapsed.

An investigation by the Financial Services Authority found that the company left a trail of victims whose motor insurance policies were worthless.

A bankruptcy hearing in the High Court banned Panesar from setting up a new business but he did so under the name, Motorcare Elite, and was then found to be in contempt of court.

The new firm's website described the business as "an established family-owned company that has built up an excellent reputation over the years."

But he had defied an order by transferring assets and had underpaid his partner company, Templeton, by at least £2.3 million.

Panesar set up the company with his father-in-law Anthony Thomas.

He was initially sentenced to nine months jail and Thomas four months – but both were granted bail pending their appeal.

The Appeal Court quashed the prison terms due to the "exceptional personal mitigation" from his family, which included a letter from his daughter, Anysha, pleading that her father be spared going to prison.

Lord Justice Rix allowed the appeal at the Civil Appeal Court and suspended his sentence for two years.

The court was told that he is now "far removed from his once luxurious life" – and is "financially ruined and bankrupt".

Lord Rix said: "The public interest will be sufficiently vindicated by suspending the term".

The Panesars came to prominence in the Vale when Mr Singh paid an estimated £20,000 to host a party for his daughter Anysha which was featured on MTV's 'Super Sweet 16' series.

The court was told that Panesar, 45, and his wife Caroline, 43, now face losing their luxury £500,000 home and their six-acre estate in the Vale.

Coaches up for top awards

THREE sports coaches from the area have been named as finalists in the Sport Wales Coach of the Year Awards 2012, to be held at the body's national centre in Cardiff on November 14.

Anthony Hughes, an athletics coach from the Vale, Pontyclun netball coach Sarah Goulden and Barry gymnastics coach Olivia Bryl are all up for top awards, the first for 'High Performance Coach of the Year', with the latter two battling it out for 'Young Coach of the Year'.

After sifting through a record number of entries, a panel of judges – which included representatives of sports governing bodies, young people, sports coach UK, Disability Sport Wales and Sport Wales – have managed to whittle down the nominations and find their favourites.

For more information, visit: www.sportwales.org.uk/coachoftheyear.

'A TAME AND MEDIOCRE OFFERING' SAYS OUR MAN

Neeson's specific set of skills fail to liven up action sequel

HAVING come to widespread public notice in *Schindler's List,* Liam Neeson became one of the biggest stars in Hollywood, straddling the art/commerce divide by popping up in the likes of *The Phantom Menace* and *The Haunting,* but balancing it with the likes of *Rob Roy* and *Michael Collins*.

However, Neeson's career was in something of a stasis in the middle of the last decade, before action movie *Taken* became a surprise hit, and revitalised his career as a (older) man of action.

He returns as Bryan Mills in *Taken 2*, which sees the family of the men he slaughtered in the first film vowing revenge on Mills, his wife (Famke Jansenn) and his daughter Kim (Maggie Grace); when Mills and his wife are 'taken', it is down to Kim to try and save them while Mills works out when exactly to unleash his specific set of skills...

If you've watched any action movie and wondered what happens to the families of those nameless, and often faceless, henchmen of the film's main villain when they are offed in a variety of bloody and brutal ways, then *Taken 2* at least offers some kind of answer. They vow to take revenge on the man who murdered their boss.

From this jumping-off point you would hope that *Taken 2* would follow its progenitor in delivering a taut, surprisingly enjoyable, piece of work that makes no pretentions but delivers thrills and the pleasure of seeing Oskar Schindler beating up an array of swarthy, eastern European men in a range of leisurewear.

What you actually get is a film that undoes much of the goodwill of the first outing, and simply offers a vague retread of that film devoid of the more satisfying moments; there is no foreboding monologue delivered with deadly intent by Neeson, nor is there

by GARETH JAMIESON

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anything that feels different or exciting.

Much of this is the fault of screenwriters Luc Besson and Robert Mark Kamen, writers who are more than versed in the world of generic action having, between them, written the likes of *The Transporter 2*, *Kiss Of The Dragon, Colombiana* and *Taken* itself. Sadly, here they are on unsteady ground, the neat role-reversal of the first half of the film giving way to Neeson brawling his way through a rescue mission.

Yes, that was more or less what took place in *Taken*, but that was shot through with some clever direction, a keen sense of playing the genre and Neeson's game and sturdy performance.

Here, with Olivier Megaton in the director's chair, he maintains his record of creating dull, by-the-numbers action movies. The action is edited to within an inch of his life, while the director fails to bring any sizzle or sparkle to proceedings.

The film is similarly encumbered by its faintly ridiculous 12A rating, the fight sequences softened down to almost nothing. Judging from the cuts, there is almost certainly a higher rated DVD in the offering, but it should have been the one on cinema screens, the fans of the first film being let down by the tame violence on show.

Even Liam Neeson seems slightly bored, even if his unerring, control-freak character is by miles the best thing on show here.

Belying his 60 years, Neeson shows he can still hang with the young guns in some hard-hitting moments, while his brow never strays too far from being furrowed, the actor lighting up the film.

While Maggie Grace tries in a far more proactive role and doesn't do too bad a job, Famke Janssen is nothing but a damsel in distress and Rade Serbedzija, as the head of the family chasing Mills, can now add 'clichéd eastern European baddie' to his CV.

While sequels very often fail to enthral like the original, it is disappointing that *Taken 2* didn't offer more for Neeson's Mills to do. Instead, its storyless retread of the first film is a damp squib rather than gigantic explosion.

VERDICT: A tame and mediocre offering, *Taken 2* takes the goodwill of the first film and throws it away. Disappointing and underwhelming action coupled with a non-existent narrative, Liam Neeson's turn is the only real shining light here in a generic, by-the-numbers offering. *Poor*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Transporter* (2002), *Taken* (2008).

NEWS IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT YSGOL DEWI SANT

Back in class with a busy few weeks

Pupils are enjoying cooked school dinners in the canteen for the first time.

IT has been a busy first few weeks in Ysgol Dewi Sant as the school opened its doors for the autumn term.

The school has grown in numbers since it opened back in September 2011, and now has 33 children from nursery to year-1.

The children have been eating hot school dinners in the hall for the first time and they have enjoyed climbing along the new activity trail in the playground. The new outdoor classroom area has proved a great success as children can now experiment in the outdoors under the canopy.

The school also won a HSBC school wildlife grant and has bought a variety of nesting boxes and bird feeders.

The children are now looking forward to seeing birds come here during the autumn and winter months.

Onions

THE children at Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant were delighted find a range of vegetables had grown in the school vegetable garden over the summer.

The children were delighted by the onions waiting for them in the school's garden this term.

Along with a mixture of herbs including mint, coriander and chives, the children pulled out five extra large onions. They were the largest onions Miss Samuel had ever seen!

The children carefully cut the onions (trying not to cry!) and used them to make tasty, healthy pizzas.

RS

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Flagship Music in the Vale concert a success

ABOVE: Vale dignitaries and performers are pictured at the Music in the Vale concert at the Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay.

RECENTLY, as part of its continuing aim to provide performance opportunities for young musicians, Music in the Vale held its flagship concert in the Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay, sponsored by Vale AM Jane Hutt.

The AM reported: "The standard of the young soloists, both instrumentalists and singers, was breathtaking.

"I was delighted to see the Pierhead Building filled with parents, friends, tutors and civic dignitaries to applaud their talent. Thanks go to the hard work of 'Music in the Vale' for enabling this to happen."

The Music in the Vale's competition is to be held this year on Saturday, November 24 (singers) and Sunday, November 25 (instrumentalists). The closing date for entries is November 5.

For more information, go to: www.musicinthevale.org.uk.

Ann Humphrey

HALLOWEEN CHARITY CAVE CAPER

The first ever 'Halloween Cave Caper' has been jointly organised by Ty Hafan and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, and will take place on Wednesday, October 31, at Dan-yr-Ogof Showcaves in the Neath Valley from 4pm to 9pm.

A three-kilometre walk through the spectacular cave system will make its way along spooky passageways before emerging temporarily into dark woods. The five-kilometre 'Halloween Scream and Zombie Run' starts in the Cathedral Cave, before going outside through the woods, where walkers will experience the eerie sounds and shadows of the countryside at night.

Tickets are £10, (£25 for a family ticket) plus a minimum sponsorship of £25 per participant. Children under four go free.

All money raised will be divided between Ty Hafan and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Great Wall of China reunion

Some of the Great Wall of China trekkers at their one-year reunion in Cardiff Bay's Salt Bar recently.

FOLLOWING the success of last year's 'Great Wall of China Trek', Penarth hospice trekkers recently organised a reunion to celebrate their achievements one year on.

The annual treks are a favourite for people looking for a challenge while raising money for the nurses at the local Marie Curie Hospice – this dedicated group of 34 raised more than £130,000!

Penarth trekker Fran Johnson said: "The Great Wall of China challenge was the maddest thing I have ever done, but I loved every minute and I wouldn't hesitate to do it again.

"The challenge proved to be a life-changing experience, so when meeting up at the one-year reunion, I made up my mind to take on my next challenge, which is the Inca Trail in Peru, May 2014. The money I intend to raise will again go towards the care given by the Marie Curie Hospice."

This next big adventure, in May 2014, gives the chance to travel to Peru and trek the Inca Trail to support the work of the Marie Curie nurses.

Spread over 10 days, the challenge includes six days of trekking, taking in the sights of the former Royal Inca highway as you near the heart of the Peruvian jungle.

For more information, call the fundraising office on 02920 426068, or register online at: www.mariecurie.org.uk

Art Central Friends' AGM

ART Central Friends recently held their AGM at the Art Central Gallery, Old Town Hall, Barry.

The new positions were decided, with the new chairperson being Monika Jones; vice chairperson: Eve Hart; treasurer: Ann Townson and the minutes secretary: Audrey Jones. The committee is looking for a volunteer to take on the role of secretary.

After the meeting, the Cardiff Drawing Group members were invited by Professor Tony Curtis to talk about their work currently on exhibition at the gallery till mid-October.

The theme of the evening – a much-trodden path for the group's members – was 'What is a drawing?'

Many of the exhibits were not what the general public would think of and perceive as drawings, as there were items of mixed media, paintings, 3D work, as well as a piece of needle wall art, alongside images which we would all call drawings.

Professor Curtis challenged the group to explain how they could call their various art pieces a drawing.

It was a most interesting and lively discussion. The exhibition consists of an eclectic mix of works and ideas.

MJ

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Autumn Colours at
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Scallywags of Cowbridge has been dressing children from all over the Vale and beyond for almost twenty five years. Fabulous new ranges from birth to 14 years have arrived from Timberland, Jean Bourget, Pampolina, Emile et Rose, Joules and many more. New to scallywags this autumn is Deux par Deux, gorgeous colourful and typically French! Also Lizzie Shirt, a fun comptempory range using variety of fabrics including polar fleece, hand dyed bold cotton prints and distinctive trimmings, all designed and beautifully made by the seaside in Cornwall.
Coming soon – Eliane et Lena truly special dresses with beautiful detail and the softest of tuille, watch this space! Visit the Quarter Penny Cafe Cowbridge to recieve your 10% off postcard which may be used against all of our new autumn/winter ranges, you will also be entered into our free prize draw for a chance to win a **£100 gift voucher** when you visit the shop! Voucher valid until 28/10/12

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Christmas Party Guide

Plan your transport for that special Christmas party night

THERE are just 75 days to go until Christmas and local businesses and companies are starting to book their venues for the annual office party.

The Vale and Bridgend offer a huge variety of festive destinations, from seaside restaurants, to country pubs.

Whatever the location of the venue your staff choose to mark their Christmas celebration, one thing is guaranteed: it will involve a journey back home late at night.

That is why it is advisable to heed the maxim *'Don't Drink and Drive!'*

It is natural that at the end of a long year, people want to enjoy themselves with work colleagues, enjoy a meal and have a few drinks.

But the consequences of driving afterwards could be serious. Drinking impairs people's ability to drive.

No one wants to cause an accident or be stopped by the police and tested with a breathalyser.

One instance of drink-driving could lead to injury, or a lengthy ban, with which could have knock-on consequences at work.

The best thing is to make proper preparations in the days leading up to your party.

Perhaps you should book a taxi to take you home.

Alternatively, if a number of people live in the same area or town, reserving a mini-bus is a great idea – spreading the cost.

Nowadays, people tend to be more aware of their responsibilities when they go out in the evening.

The Christmas party season is one of the most frenetic times for taxi firms, so make sure you call them well in advance, and confirm the booking a day or two in advance.

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Emily wins a young entrepreneur award

ABOVE: Emily Webb with John Oliver (far left) education business adviser with Careers Wales and young entrepreneurs Nathan Dicks of Rewise Learning (second right) and George Ikamba of Mr G's Soul Kitchen (far right).

BUSINESS owner Emily Webb was recently handed the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award at this year's South Wales Business Awards, held at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.

The 23-year-old managing director of Oarsome Potential Ltd waled away with one of the top awards from the event, organised by Welsey Skene of Cowbridge-based WS Marketing.

Sponsored by Careers Wales, the Young Entrepreneur Award was presented to Emily for the design and development of her award-winning product called the Oarsome Potential Grip. The multi-use ergonomic handgrips were originally designed for use by professional and amateur rowers on rowing oars and are now adapted for use on indoor rowing machines, helping to reduce pain and calluses forming on the hands of gym users.

The antibacterial grips also help relieve pain in the hands, arms and shoulders of long and short term crutch users and are supplied to a high profile military charity.

Sea Scouts 'on parade' to collect awards from Mayor

ON October 2, Beavers, Cubs and one Scout received their Chief Scout bronze, silver and gold awards respectively, from the Vale of Glamorgan Mayor at their headquarters in Ilminster Street, Barry.

The photos show James Harris receiving his Chief Scout gold award from the Mayor and Cubs with their leaders accompanied by the Mayor and Lady Mayoress.

LDP: 'PLEDGE EXPOSED'

IN The GEM on April 26, Phillip Irwin reported that in a shock move one week before the May elections, the Labour Party in the Vale pledged to scrap the LDP and start all over again.

The Labour group leader, Neil Moore, was quoted as saying: "A Labour-run Vale Council will go back to the drawing board and begin the process again."

However, Alun Cairns MP has now exposed the fact that Labour had no such intention.

All the Vale coalition has done is to merely revise, not scrap the LDP plan, and Labour councillor Lis Burnet's subsequent feeble attempt to cover up the fact that they had misled the electorate just does not wash.

You would think that a councillor with so many cabinet posts would know exactly what the Vale Labour Party meant when they published their election promise to scrap the LDP.

Gordon Wilkie, (*Conservative voter*).

Wenvoe Trials

Keen cross-country riders are looking forward to an exciting day on Sunday, October 14, when the Glamorgan Hunter Trials will again be held at Alps Park, Wenvoe. All classes are open to juniors and adults, with jumps from 1ft 8" to 3ft 6" average. The open class, to finish the day, has big prize money and this time is open to all age groups. Contact 07798903781.

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The result was calculated from the Customer Satisfaction returns of nearly 16,000 households across Britain and Ireland - every single customer of every member company for the whole year, with the award being presented by snooker legend Steve Davis at Network VEKA's AGM in Cheshire.

Six-times World Champion Steve, who is also the Brand Ambassador for Network VEKA, told the MPN team: "All Network VEKA members maintain incredibly high standards, so you really are competing against the best of the best. Congratulations."

MPN's Paul Webster collected the trophy and said of the win: "Our reputation is very important to us and we are extremely committed to customer service. It's great to be recognised for all our hard work."

Steve Davis presents the trophy to Paul & Melanie Webster and Paul & Hannah Glastonbury.

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Llantwit Major RFC under-14s turn on the style with a fine victory

IT was a day for running rugby as Llantwit under-14s took to the field against the might of Dinas Powys.

Llantwit started strong and Taylor Addinson went over in the right-hand corner.

Charlie Cook then went over in the right-hand corner and Matthew Cottington broke the Dinas defence and powered for the line. Converting his own try, Llantwit had a comfortable lead.

Cook once again crossed the line but the home pack crashed over in the far left corner.

One final burst from the Llantwit pack saw Watkins break the line and power over for a score under the posts. Alex Parry stepped up and slotted through the kick to close out the half, 29-5.

Tom Slimmings put his name on the scoresheet and slotted home the conversion and, with the game clearly won, the Llantwit coaches shouted for the forwards to use the remaining game time to polish up on their rucking and mauling skills.

Evan Holloway and Matthew Cottington notched for Llantwit but Dinas were not ready to lie down yet, and plenty of guts and determination from the kick-off eventually resulted in a well-worked try with a conversion to follow to make the final score 46-12.

Team: Iwan Williams, Edward Thomas, Patrick O'carroll, Luc Morgan, Ethan Forrest, Alex Parry, Charlie Cook, Dafydd Watkins, Tom Slimmings, Cai Jones, Scott Bunting, Evan Holloway (C), Taylor Addinson, Matthew Cottington, Ben Simpson, Ryan Allinson and Scott Ankin.

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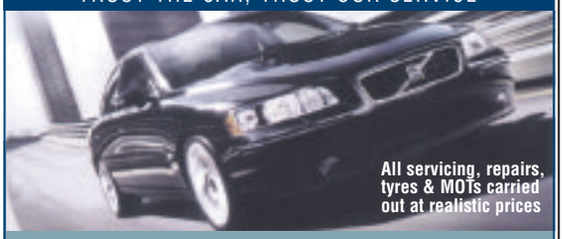

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Cowbridge rugby youngsters enjoy some mixed fortunes

COWBRIDGE, although unable to produce a performance to match that of the previous week, pushed a strong Rhiwbina side all the way before losing by three tries to two.

The visitors opened the scoring after five minutes with the ball travelling through four players' hands before their centre scored a try under the posts, which was converted.

Cowbridge hit back immediately with clever passing between Rhys Beynon and Seán Davies which allowed the latter to score in the corner, the difficult conversion was unsuccessful.

The Rhiwbina pack began to dominate at this stage and despite brave tackling by Owain Jenkins, Tomos Evans-Williams and Charlie Martin they were unable to prevent the Cardiff side from scoring a second converted try.

Just before half-time, Cowbridge centre Dan Bunney scored a fine individual try to leave the score at 14 points to 10 to Rhiwbina.

At the start of the second half second rows Otto Guwy, who was outstanding throughout, and James Waters began to win good lineout ball for Cowbridge, and with outside half Cai Evans pinning Rhiwbina back in their own half with good tactical kicking, it seemed that a third try was inevitable.

A good run by prop Ben Terry took the ball to within five metres of the line but Rhiwbina somehow managed to clear their ball into touch. Unfortunately, it was the visitors who scored the decisive and winning try with a just a few minutes remaining to win by 19 points to 10.

Prominent in the Cowbridge pack were Duncan Ace, Josh Evans and Tom Edwards whilst the pick of the backs were Osian John, Joe Nott and Sam Palmer.

COWBRIDGE 52 v KENFIG HILL 0

COWBRIDGE won their first game of the season with an eight-try demolition of Kenfig Hill.

The home side dominated the game from start to finish, with tries from Sam John and Cai Evans (two apiece) and Rhys Beynon, Sam Palmer and Charlie Pegrum also on the score sheet.

Outstanding up front were Will Couzins and Otto Guwy, while Joe Nott and Dewi Bennett shone in the backs.

ML

The Barrivale Club looks to increase its membership

THE Barrivale Club is looking to increase its membership so it may continue to provide elderly and disabled people with a social evening to attend.

The club was formed in March 1994 when eight friends decided to form a group for elderly and disabled people to socialise. Led by Mrs Pat Warmsley, they all donated just £5 each to start up.

Our first meeting was held at Highlight Park Nursery where membership drew very quickly. Following a rent increase, they moved to Rondell House, where they again thrived. Membership reached a staggering 98 members in a short space of time.

Holidays were able to be arranged, and carers could attend. Health and safety courses were therefore undertaken.

Every year we entered the Barry Carnival with help from Mr Don Warmsley, its organiser, who eventually married Pat.

In later years we re-located to Gwenog Court, but unfortunately in recent years our numbers have fallen as our oldest members have passed on and others have been unable to attend due to ill health.

New members are warmly welcomed and our meetings are held every Thursday from 6.30pm-9pm.

Membership is £2 and we hold a donated raffle and lottery draw. Entertainment is provided by local artists and transport can be arranged by minibus from any area in Barry for a small charge.

If you are interested, contact Mrs Edna Haslam (a founder member) on 01446 400209.

Peter Walker
Treasurer

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Dr Who exhibit is a joy for adults and children alike!

by GARETH JAMIESON

FOR those Dr Who fans who are still reaching for the tissues, having said a sad farewell to the Ponds, and know that they won't get another Timelord fix until the Christmas special, there is a way to fill the hole in your lives.

Recently opened in Cardiff Bay is the *Dr Who Experience*, a godsend for fans of the television institution that hits its 50th anniversary next year, and being the noble sort, I offered to go and check it out.

Walking into the newly constructed building, you are greeted by wall collages of some of the Doctor's greatest foes, from Davros himself to the slightly less menacing, but no less villainous Adipose, with a replica of the Doctor's car, Bessie, taking pride of place in the waiting area.

Once there, you are shepherded into an adventure which sees you help the Doctor as he comes up against his most deadly adversaries in a thrilling interactive journey. Using special effects, 3D and specially-shot footage of Matt Smith as the Doctor, it will thrill adults and children alike.

With the chance to walk through sets that look like they've come straight from the screen, to the opportunity for the younger visitors to actually pilot the TARDIS, the interactive element is wonderfully done and it's more than easy to get caught up in it thinking that you're actually involved in an episode of the series!

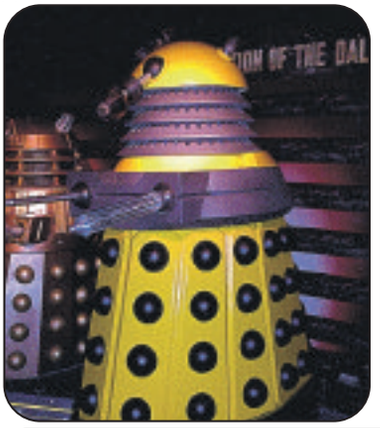
Once you've had the chance to take a breather from your adventure, you are greeted by two levels of everything Doctor Who. From costumes of the first 10 Doctors, to replicas of the TARDIS and their control centres, the first level fulfils the criteria to satisfy even the most hardened Whovian!

When you reach the second level, you come face to face with villains from every era of the Doctors adventures – you can see the evolution of the Daleks and the Cybermen, meet the likes of the Abzorbaloff, the Sontarans and the Judoon – and see costumes belonging to some of the characters the Doctor has met on his journeys, such as Rose Tyler, Amy Pond, Captain Jack Harkness and (my personal favourite) Kylie Minogue's Astrid.

The whole experience takes you around 90 minutes and is so jam-packed with trivia and behind-the-scenes information that you won't feel shortchanged in the slightest.

It doesn't come cheap (a family ticket for two adults and two children comes in at £38), but in comparison to other entertainment, offers incredible value for money, while the onsite gift shop offers plenty for everyone.

For those with even a passing interest in *Doctor Who*, the Experience is a must-visit and well worth your time and money; just be warned – there are no sofas for you to hide behind!



The exhibit gives you the chance to come face to face with the Daleks (above, left) and also see the Doctor's famous TARDIS (right) up close.

SPOOKY TALES: A phantom wagon and a 'corpse candle'

THE unique village of Merthyr Mawr lies 2½ miles south-west of Bridgend – it is an intriguing beauty spot with pasture lands on the lower valley of the River Ogmore.

With its traditional thatched cottages overlooking the village green, it gives a dreamy example of an idyllic settlement, itching to remind us of its ancient past.

On the outskirts of Merthyr Mawr is the iconic Grade Two-listed New Bridge, a single-tracked humped overpass made of dressed stone with four arches and parapets.

It replaced a wooden deck on stone piers prior to the early 19th Century structure.

A plaque is set in the wall bearing the inscription: "*This bridge was built at the expense of Right Honourable Sir John Nicholl under the inspection of William County Surveyor by Morgan Thomas of Laleston 1827.*"

Sir John Nicholl had obtained the Merthyr Mawr Estate in 1804, building himself a large house, new road into the village and a bridge to carry stagecoaches across the water, replacing the old ford.

Also known as the 'Dipping Bridge' it was used by local farmers to push reluctant sheep into the water for their annual dip.

The legendary New Inn relates to Cap Coch, an evil man who wore a red cap as a tribute to the French freedom fighters. He enticed weary travellers to his inn, which stood in a hollow on the track road from Bridgend beside the River Ogmore.

Most ill-fated travellers were known as packmen, often on horseback or in horse-drawn carriages, and would carry valuable products such as wool, skins, stockings and flannel.

They were often single tradesmen in need of refreshment from the inn. Together with outlaws and smugglers, Cap Coch would murder his rich victims in order to steal their wares and take them to market to sell.

The truth of these deeds came to light with the discovery of countless bodies buried around the area of the ruined, and later demolished, inn.

The eye-catching Church of St Teilo is at the heart of the village and became Grade Two listed in 1963. This Gothic-style building was constructed during 19th Century on the site of a 14th Century Church.

St Teilo was the grandson of King Ceredig of Ceredigion and was born around 500 AD. He was considered to be the most holy man in Wales, as he worked and travelled with St David, the patron Saint of Wales.

Stones of interest relating to the era of Paulinus, include the wheel-cross and large sandstone slab with the inscription '*Here lies Baudewin and his wife Lycia. God rest their souls in peace. Amen*' – which is is a significant reminder of the people who dwelt here in the past.

A 16th Century map refers to Baudewins's House which was positioned southwest of Merthyr Mawr.

The sand dunes (also known as Merthyr Mawr Warren) span a large area and consist of blown sand. Once thought to be the largest sand dune complex in Europe, they stretch along the coastline to Mumbles.

Because of its golden sands extending over a vast section of the shoreline, parts of the film *Lawrence of Arabia* were filmed in the area.

One particular dune is named 'The Big Dipper,' and is thought to be the highest in Europe.

Although a daunting challenge on such a lengthy stretch of sand, archaeologists found items from our prehistoric past, as well as the Neolithic Age, with findings such as flint tools, arrowheads, knives, scrapers and stone workings.

Bronze Age items dating from 400-300 BC were also unearthed. Early Iron Age objects were uncovered, too, including bronze crucibles, brooches and pins.

Other interesting finds from all walks of life include a sand mound amid covered stones with six burial plots, two of which were in cists.

The skeletons of two men buried in vessels were also found.

A mysterious building also stood in a ruined state on the sandhills. It was thought to be the remains of a Celtic windmill. These Celtic-speaking people are thought to have travelled from Somerset.

The phantom image of a wagon pulled by three horses has been seen on a number of occasions tearing through the village at pace. Local people claim that seeing this apparition is considered to be bad luck as the 'special taper' (corpse candle) eerily guides the eye towards this deathly apparition.

But could this ghostly parade be from an era when a freak thunderstorm struck and the horse, driver and coach were swept into the swollen river, never to be seen again?

The frightful feeling of being watched by unseen eyes around the entrance to the sandhills often overcomes people's emotions, only for them to discover that no physical being is actually there!

Could the ghosts of the past be keeping a watchful eye over their patch from an era beyond our grasp?

Fact or fiction? *Only you can decide...*

HAYLEY WILLIAMS
hayley.williams550@yahoo.com

There is a Spooky Halloween Ghost Talk and Walk on October 28 at 6pm from the Swan Inn, Nottage, Porthcawl; £2.50 on entry, followed by Karen's Quiz.

An insight into the world of Queen Victoria

DINAS POWYS WI NEWS

DIANA HODGSON opened the October meeting and welcomed speaker, Mr Philip Bowen, on a return visit to talk about Osborne House.

Osborne House was the chosen home of Queen Victoria. She and Prince Albert married in 1840 and the house was purchased in 1845.

It was completely demolished and rebuilt, paid for by Prince Albert, in a very ornate Italianate way.

The house was a "Place of one's own". Prince Albert and their nine children spent Christmas and birthdays there.

Queen Victoria was very much in charge, laying down strict rules for the running of the house; including times of meals

She insisted that servants should not be seen when she was walking around the grounds and gardens, which had been designed by Prince Albert – and supervised by him with the use of semaphore signals from an upstairs vantage point!

There was a private beach and a private bathing hut, which was lowered into the water when the Queen wished to swim.

At her funeral, London was adorned with purple and white decorations.

In 1954, the house was opened to the public and is now controlled by English Heritage.

We hope to walk in Bute Park on October 25 to view the autumn colours.

Lynda Wallis, one of our members had used her bursary to learn about Churchill and Blenheim at Denman College.

She told members that she had thoroughly enjoyed her three days there, and encouraged other members to attend a course there.

Ann Fowler organised a get-together to start rehearsals for our Christmas entertainment.

The competition for a Victorian object was won by Gillian Hopkins, and the raffle by Miriam Evans.

Our next meeting is on November 6, when we will be told about 'Weird Wills.' We meet in the Lee Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm. All are welcome. **BD**

Brave Trinnie needs a home

Can you give Trinnie a new home?

TRINNIE is a beautiful three-year-old Staffordshire bull terrier, desperate for a new home, Dogs Trust Bridgend reports.

On the same day that she came to the rehoming centre she gave birth to a litter of three puppies. Trinnie was very stressed as she adjusted to life as a new mum in new surroundings.

On top of this, Trinnie has also lost a leg due to a road accident earlier this year.

Beverley Price, Dogs Trust Bridgend rehoming centre manager said: "Trinnie has been through so much in her young life but despite all of her trials, she has such a wonderful nature.

"She loves a good fuss, enjoys playing with her toys and chews, and is a very friendly, affectionate girl.

"She has been a super mum and her puppies have happily all been rehomed.

"We would love nothing more than for her to find her new family, too, and she loves children – a true 'nanny' dog'!"To offer Trinnie the loving home that she deserves, visit: www.dogstrust.org.uk.

NEWS FROM PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

Researching the world of eBay

AUCTIONS are a source of much amusement in films when something goes wrong and an item is bought (or sold) accidentally.

I am sure it still happens, but times have changed. Now, with the online auction you can make a mistake from the comfort of your armchair.

There is presently much interest in eBay and Kevin S was invited to reprise his introduction of its benefits, how it all works and how to make best use of it.

During a quick re-run of his previous talk, he reviewed its launch in 1997 and how it has grown.

It now allows you to offer goods to a 100 million people worldwide and to inspect what they offer for you to buy.

It is not necessary to become a member to browse and to bid on items.

You can spend as much time as you like to work it all out. Once you decide that you want to be a bit more involved, you can register as a member.

Kevin logged on to the site and went through the process of registration. This requires your name, address and email address, after which you choose a username and your (secure) password.

Thus far, no payment is necessary.

Kevin explained how to buy and sell effectively; when to bid and how to avoid seeming too keen and inviting competitive bids that might increase the price you have to pay to win an item.

One way is to put an item on watch, where eBay keeps you informed of the bidding.

The time that an auction will close is indicated and the later you bid, the less time there is for anyone to beat it, but you must keep in mind that others might be doing exactly the same thing.

It is possible to place a bid indicating the maximum you are prepared to pay. If your bid is highest you will win, but your bid will be reduced to one increment above the value of the next highest bid.

The increment is proportional to the value of the item and ensures that no item is grossly overvalued by a single bidder. If the seller says 'buyer collects', be sure the distance is reasonable.

Selling incurs a modest charge, depending on the values involved and how much information is included, such as additional photographs.

Accurate descriptions are important and worth the care taken. You will know the cost before you commit to the auction.

Tips were given on how to use the site to your best advantage. They included how to make informative descriptions of what is being sold and finding the correct postage costs.

You are expected to sign up for Paypal in due course to ensure the money changes hands securely.

Feedback from users is used to identify the most reliable people.

For more information about club activities, visit: penarthcomputerclub.co.uk

HOWARD DESMOND (chairman)

PETERSTON PRIMARY CHILDREN CELEBRATE HARVEST FESTIVAL

PUPILS at Peterston-super-Ely Church in Wales Primary School held two harvest celebrations last week.

The first was in the school hall for nursery and reception and the second for the older pupils at the church and community hall.

Both festivals were fully supported by parents and friends, indeed, it was standing room only in the church hall. The pupils entertained the audiences with songs and readings, plus a talk from the Vale of Glamorgan Food Bank chairman. Among the harvest goods were bread and the traditional sheaf loaf, all made by pupils.

PHOTOS by **IAN DIXON**

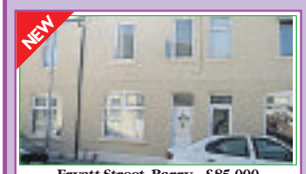
KNIGHTS

ESTATE AGENTS • CHARTERED SURVEYORS

RICS

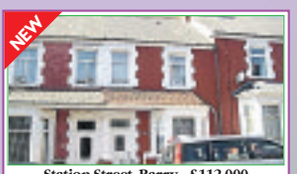
Barry (01446) 700222
Lettings (01446) 701333
Commercial (01446) 709933

NEW



Fryatt Street, Barry - £85,000
Traditional mid terrace property • Hallway • Lounge through dining room • Fitted kitchen • Two double bedrooms • Family bathroom • upvc DG • Gas CH • Enclosed rear garden • Views over Bristol Channel and Somerset Coast • Close to all local amenities/train station • Viewing recommended.

NEW

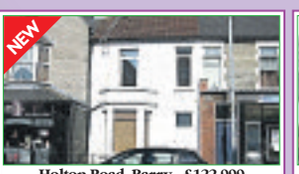


Station Street, Barry - £112,000
Traditional four bedoom mid terraced house • Lounge/dining room • Reception room • Kitchen • Bathroom • garage • Within walking distance of Holton Road thoroughfare and local primary schools • For sale with no chain.

REDUCED

Court Road, Barry - £119,950
Four bedroom detached property • East end of Barry • Three reception rooms • fitted kitchen • First floor bathroom • Gas CH • Partial upvc DG • Enclosed rear garden • Walking distance to shops • Close to primary schools and train station with links to Cardiff and Bridgend.

NEW



Holton Road, Barry - £122,999
Four bedroom terrace • Hallway • Lounge • Fitted kitchen • Gas CH • Bathroom • Conservatory • Utility room •upvc windows • Walking distance of Holton Road thoroughfare and primary schools

Daniel Street, Barry - £124,950
Extended 3/4 bedroom semi-detached • East end of Barry • Porch • two reception rooms • kitchen/dining room • downstairs shower/utility and bathroom to the first floor • gas CH • South facing garden • Close to primary school, train station, doctors surgery and shops.

NEW

Whitewell Road, Barry - £134,950
Three bedroom • semi detached • Porch • Hallway • Lounge • Dining room • Kitchen • Three bedrooms • First floor bathroom • Gas CH • Front and rear gardens • Walking distance of comprehensive schools, Winston Road shops and bus links to Barry town centre, Penarth , Cardifff.

Romilly Mews, Barry - £139,950
Newly renovated one bedroom mid terrace cottage • Exclusive gated community • Hallway • Downstairs wc • Lounge/Dining room with patio doors • New white kitchen with some integrated appliances • bathroom • Master bedroom with doors on to glass panelled balcony with sea views.

Canon Street, Barry - £151,995
Traditional bay fronted • Three bedroom mid terrace • West end of Barry • Porch • Hallway • Lounge • Through dining room • Kitchen/Breakfast room • Family bathroom • Gas CH • Majority upvc DG • Enclosed forecourt and rear garden • Close to beaches • No Chain.

REDUCED

Heol Eryr Mor, Barry Island - £152,950
Three bedroom mid link • Nells Point development • No chain • hallway • Downstairs wc • Lounge • Fitted kitchen with integrated appliances • Ensuite shower room and family bathroom • upvc DG • Gas CH • Enclosed garden • Driveway and garage.

Glanfa Dafydd, Barry - £154,950
Duplex penthouse apartment with two double bedrooms • Waterfront development • Lounge • Large fitted kitchen/diner • French doors to balcony • Two bathrooms • Built-in double wardrobes • Allocated parking space with guest parking • Close to Town centre • Part exchange considered • No chain.

NEW

Hazelwood, Barry - £156,950
Three bedroom • Mid terrace • Maintained to the highest of standards • Opposite Victoria Park • Walking distance to train station with links to Penarth, Dinas Powys and Cardiff • Easy access to Sully link road, M4, Close to Cadoxton Primary School.

Hardy Close, Barry - £164, 000
Four bedroom detached property • North barry • Lounge through dining room • Kitchen and utility room • Downstairs wc • Family bathroom and ensuite to master • Gas CH • Single garage (presently converted) • Enclosed rear garden • partial views across channel • No Chain.

Colcot Road, Barry - £170,000
Three bedroom • Extended semi detached • North of barry • Lounge • Family room/dining room • Fitted kitchen with range cooker • Conservatory • Ground floor wc • Ensuite to master bedroom • Family bathrom with jacuzzi • Enclosed rear garden • Gas CH • upvc DG • Driveway parking for 2/3 vehicles.

Clos Celyn, Barry - £174,950
Modern three bedroom detached • Cul de sac location • Pencoedtre Village • Entrance hallway • Cloakroom • Lounge • Kitchen/diner • Family bathroom and ensuite to master bedroom • Conservatory • Gas CH • Enclosed rear garden • Workshop to rear • Easy access to Cardiff and M4.

The Heathers, Barry - £174,995
Four bedroom detached • west End of Barry • Entrance hallway • Downstairs wc • Lounge • Dining room through to kitchen • Conservatory • Family bathroom to first floor • upvc DG • Gas CH • Low maintenance rear garden • Driveway with off road parking • Integral garage.

NEW

Suran y Gog, Barry - £220,000
Four bedroom • Detached • Pencoedtre Village • Entrance hallway • Cloakroom • Lounge • Kitchen/diner • Family bathroom and ensuite to master bedroom • Conservatory • Gas CH • Enclosed rear garden • Garage • Space for 4/5 cars • Easy access to cardiff and M4 corridor • No chain.

A range of ground and 1st floor apartments - £225,000
Opportunity to purchase a newly developed two bedroom first floor apartment set in gated community • Hallway • Open plan lounge/diner/kitchen • Bathroom and ensuite to master bedroom • Balcony • upvc DG • Gas CH • Allocated parking • Walking distance to amenities.

Pencoedtre Road, Barry - £229,950
Detached cottage • Large plot • Hallway • Three reception rooms • Kitchen/breakfast room • Walk-in pantry • Downstairs wc • Store area • Three double bedrooms • Bathroom and separate wc. upvc DG • Gas CH • Gated access to driveway with off road parking for numerous vehicles.

Colcot Road, Barry - £229,999
Three bedroom • Semi detached dormer bungalow • North Barry • Entrance hallway • Cloakroom • twin reception rooms • Kitchen/Breakfast room • Ground floor bathroom • two bedrooms to the ground floor •Third bedroom and shower room to first floor.

Colcot Road, Barry - £234,950
Three bedroom semi detached • Open plan hallway• Lounge • Dining room • Fitted kitchen with built-in cooker • Summer room • Downstairs shower room and family bathroom to first floor • 180ft rear garden • Driveway and garage • Viewing highly recommended.

NEW

Greave Close, Wenvoe - £239,950
Detached three bedroom • Two reception rooms • Bathroom • Entrance hallway • Cloakroom • wc • Lounge • Separate dining room • Fitted kitchen • Shower room • Well tended gardens • Driveway for 3/4 cars and garage • Cul de sac location • Excellent location • walking distance of local amenities.

St Lythans Road, Barry - £239,950
Three bedroom semi detached bungalow • West End • Lounge and family room • Conservatory/dining room • Newly installed kitchen, shower room and ensuite bathroom • upvc DG • Gas CH • Enclosed rear garden • Driveway and off road parking • Single garage.

NEW

Porthkerry Road Methodist Church, Barry - £249,995
Rare opportunity to puchase a Grade II Listed Victorian Methodist Church with adjacent hall. Constructed approx 1900. Overall site 0.44 acres. Offers are invited. Previously with planning consent for conversion to residential (expired).

St Barucs House, Park Road, Barry - £295,000
Former school house completely renovated and extended to a high specification • Ground floor apartment • Gated community • Three double bedrooms • Ensuite to master bedroom • Kitchen/family area • Two allocated parking bays.

Rose Cottage, Penmark - £325,000
Three bedroom period cottage within the Vale of Glamorgan • Two reception rooms • Conservatory • Kitchen with some built in appliances • Downstairs wc, ensuite wc and family bathroom • Enclosed garden • Garage with planning permission • Off road parking for 2 vehicles.

NEW

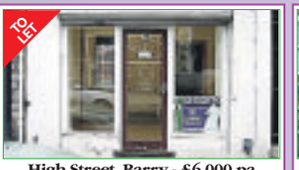
Millwood, Penmark - £369,000
Four bedroom detached property • Entrance hallway • Cloakroom • Lounge • Dining room • Study • Kitchen/Diner • Utility room • Four bedrooms to the first floor • Family bathroom and ensuite to master bedroom • Enclosed rear garden • Garage • The property has very large rooms throuoghout.

NEW

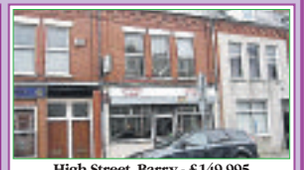
Cennin Pedr, Barry - £245,000
Five bedroom detached family home situated in a quiet cul de sac postion • Pencoedtre Village • Entrance Hallway • Cloakroom • lounge • Kitchen/breakfast room • Family bathroom and en-suite to master bedroom • Four bathrooms • Gas CH • Enclosed rear garden • Garage • Easy Access to Cardiff & M4

Romilly Park Road, Barry - £450,000
Semi detached • many original features • Five double bedrooms • Three reception rooms • Utility room • Downstairs shower room and family bathroom • En suite shower to master bedroom • Balcony • Enclosed front, side and rear gardens • Driveway for numerous vehicles.

TO LET



High Street, Barry - £6,000 pa
Undergoing refurbishment. Ground floor shop unit to lease with rear yard, situated in High Street shopping area • Main retail area 20m/211ft • Kitchen • Toilet and bathroom facilities • Photograph is prior to refurbishment.



High Street, Barry - £149,995
Opportunity to acquire a take-away with living accommodation currently being utilised as a Chinese take-away. All fixtures and fittings to remain and include large range, freestanding fridge/freezer, further freezers, gas stove and microwave. Flexible living accommodation set over two floors with up to five bedrooms (accessed via shop). Freehold property.

84 High Street, BARRY CF62 7DX • www.knights.uk.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 17 October 2012

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 709840

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at **HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** or apply in writing to: **Vale of Glamorgan Council** Legal, Public Protection and Housing Department Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or **Newydd Housing Association** 121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

ANDREW ROAD, PENARTH

H4U Reference 236893
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £99.52 per week including service charges

CHAMBERLAIN ROW, DINAS POWYS

H4U Reference 230631
Suitable for a family
- Two-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £96.30 per week including service charges

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 983379
Suitable for a family
- Three-bed maisonette
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Parking

Rent £84.71 per week including service charges

EWBANK CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 209618
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £97.12 per week including service charges

HANOVER COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 1095654
Suit for a single person or couple over 60 (55 with medical needs)
- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Bath-no shower
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Scheme manager/alarm

Rent £92.44 per week including service charges

HINCHSLIFF AVENUE, BARRY

H4U Reference 212483
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £97.96 per week including service charges

NORTH WALK, BARRY

H4U Reference 218009
Suitable for a family – no pets
- Three-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £86.02 per week including service charges

NORTH WALK, BARRY

H4U Reference 217952
Suitable for a family – no pets
- Three-bedroom flat
- Above ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £86.02 per week including service charges

NORTH WALK, BARRY

H4U Reference 217873
Suit for a single person or couple over 40– no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £84.65 per week including service charges

OAK COURT, PENARTH

H4U reference 1088308
Suit for a single person or couple over 60 (55 with medical needs)
- One-bedroom flat
- Second floor (lift)
- Walk-in shower
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Manager/communicall

Rent £102.98 per week including service charges

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 219859
Suitable for a single person, couple or small family– no pets
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £80.06 per week including service charges

PENDOYLAN CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 220349
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £92.62 per week including service charges

PHILIPPA FREETH COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 1063258
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (steps)
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Parking/gardens

Rent £92.06 per week including service charge

PORT ROAD, BARRY

H4U Reference 221745
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £100.42 per week including service charges

POWIS VIEW, BARRY

H4U Reference 1095585
Suitable for a single person or couple over 40 - no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Communal gardens

Rent £64.40 per week including service charge

SEVERN AVENUE, BARRY

H4U Reference 222866
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Community alarm

Rent £82.39 per week including service charge

WINIFRED AVENUE, BARRY

H4U Reference 228614
Preference given to a family with 4+ children
- Four-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £97.12 per week including service charges

Important information for existing and new council tenants

From April 2013 Housing Benefit Rules are changing for 'working age' tenants who live in Council and Housing Association properties. If you are of pension age this change will not affect you.

Deductions will be made from Housing Benefit claim where a claimant is living in a property that is classed as too large for them. There will be a 14% deduction for one extra bedroom and a 25% deduction for two or more bedrooms.

To calculate room needs for a client, **one bedroom** is allowed for each of the following:

- every adult couple;
- any other adult aged over 16;
- any two children of the same sex up to age 16;
- any two children regardless of sex aged under 16; or
- any other child.

Foster children are not included in the calculation.

HomeSwapper

Examples

A single person (of working age) living in a two-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **one bedroom**, so a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply.

A couple (of working age) living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **one bedroom**, so a 25% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply

A single parent or couple with a son aged 8 and a daughter aged 6, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **two bedrooms**, so there would be a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit

A single parent or couple with two daughters, aged 12 and 6, and a son aged 4, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **three bedrooms**, so no deduction would apply.

Please be aware of the above when making bids for properties in this advert as this may affect how much rent you pay.

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.
When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness. Newydd is a charitable housing association.

newydd

Scott Close, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Family Home
No Onward Chain
Call Simon 01446 791963
£79,950

Byron Court, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
First Floor Retirement Flat
No Onward Chain
Call Simon 01446 791963
£89,950

Lougher Place, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Well Presented
69ft Rear Garden
Call Simon 01446 791963
£122,995

Chris Davies

Rhoose 01446 711900
Llantwit Major 01446 792020
Barry 01446 700007
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

Georgian Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
No Onward Chain
Call Today To View
Call Simon 01446 791963
£156,950

Eurgan Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
South Side Location
View Today
Call Simon 01446 791963
£172,000

Leigh Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Extended and Refurbished
No Onward Chain
Call Simon 01446 791963
£179,950

Voss Park Drive, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
Recently Refurbished
No Onward Chain
Call Simon 01446 791963
£195,000

Boverton Court, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
Family Home
Call Today To View
Call Simon 01446 791963
£198,500

Llys Dwynwen, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Corner Position
Select Development
Call Simon 01446 791963
£199,950

Ceredwyn Cottage, Llantwit Major
2 Double Bedrooms
Renovated Throughout
View Today
Call Simon 01446 791963
£227,500

Hayes Cottage, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
West End Location
Off Road Parking
Call Simon 01446 791963
£229,000

Tennyson Way, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
4 Receptions
Open Outlook Onto Fields
Call Simon 01446 791963
£255,000

Lets!

Murlande Way, Rhoose - £425 pcm
Modern property, one bedroom, private garden.

Starling Road, St Athan - £495 pcm
2 Bedrooms, Large kitchen/Diner, Enclosed Rear Garden.

Magpie Road, St Athan - £495 pcm
Two bedrooms, kitchen/diner, rear garden.

Fontygary Road, Rhoose - £500 pcm
Two bedrooms, new bathroom, large lounge.

Lougher Place, St Athan - £525 pcm
Two bedrooms, private garden, allocated parking.

Murlande Way, Rhoose - £550 pcm
Two bedrooms, shower room, front and rear gardens.

Murlande Way, Rhoose - £555 pcm
Two bedrooms, New carpets, Bathroom.

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01446 795454
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Must show full ID and must be over 18.

Birthdays

Happy 9th Birthday
Lily-Ann Gore
on October 11th
Hope you have a great day.

Lots of Love Mummy, Aunty Ann, Kayleigh, Mike and all the family *x x x*

• 50 • 50 • 50 • 50 • 50 • 50 •
VAL GRONOW
Happy 50th Birthday 'Val'
on 14th October
Hope you have a lovely day
Love from all the family xxx

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Office hours are 4 hours daily, Monday to Friday, with occasional evening meetings as required. Starting salary, £16,000, subject to annual review.

If you are a proven leader, who has sound financial administration and business mangement skills and a clear understanding of the working of a Town Council, along with the ability to work in partnership with councillors, other local authorities, and community and business groups in promoting the interests of Bridgend, we welcome your application. Local knowledge of Bridgend Town would be an advantage.

Applications, along with your CV and contact details of two referees, to be forwarded to Bridgend Town Council, Council Offices, Glanogwr, Bridgend, CF31 3PF.

Closing date for all applications will be Monday, 22nd October.

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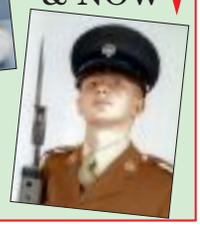
Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 'Sweet 16'
SHANELLA EVANS
on 11th October, 2012
Lots of love from Mum, Lesley, Kiara, Anneka, Garin and Sophie *x x x*

Happy 21st Birthday
Nathan Hopkins
on 10th October, 2012
Lots of Love . . .
Mum, Dad, Steve, Leanne, John, Rhian, Harri, Joanie & Caitlin *x x x*

DECLAN COOPER

HAPPY 18th BIRTHDAY on 14th October
← THEN & NOW ↓



God Bless.
Love from Mum, Dad & Family
x x x x

Family Notices

KEITH POWELL
The family of the late Keith Powell would like to thank everyone for their support at this sad time. We greatly appreciate your kind expressions of sympathy.
All your thoughts and support are deep in our hearts and we thank you for keeping us in your hearts.

DONOVAN
Olive
Peacefully on October 4th at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Olive aged 94 years, of Cowbridge. Dearly loved mother of Jennifer, mother-in-law of David, much loved grandmother of Rachel and Emma, great-grandmother of Owen, Leah, Nimue, Osian and Kian.
Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James and Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, October 15th, service and cremation 3.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home. Donations in lieu, if desired, may be sent to Arthritis Research c/o Mr J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose CF62 3DZ·

Engagements

Congratulations on the Engagement of
Ian Bradshaw (Llampha)
& **Rachel England**
(Cowbridge)
Wishing you both every happiness.
Lots of love from both families xxxx

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NEW PEUGEOT 208 PROVES IMPRESSIVE FRENCH DRIVE

Motoring by Tim Saunders

FOR this week's road test, we visit tranquil and picturesque Brittany to test the all-new Peugeot 208, the replacement to the popular 207.

In a world that is full of bland and characterless hatchbacks, Peugeot has a tough job to make its offering suitably different and, importantly, better than the class-beating Ford Fiesta.

The new 208 is seven centimetres smaller than its predecessor yet there are five centimetres more legroom for rear occupants. The 1.6-litre VTi Allure petrol model tested returns up to a decent 47mpg. This means that it travels 600 miles on its 50-ltr fuel tank.

At first glance, it's a striking model that looks and feels much more fashionable and appealing than its predecessor, demanding lustful glances from other motorists, pedestrians and children alike.

It shares the same wheelbase with the 207 but is over 100kg lighter thanks to a wise choice of materials including aluminium.

Despite Autocar highlighting a poor gearbox, performance and noisy engine on the 1.2-litre model, the 1.6-litre was a joy to drive through St Malo, Dinan and Dinard, and prior to that it coped with the Brittany Ferries' crossing with ease; its alarm not going off once, unlike the Mercedes next to it.

Yes, the five-speed gearbox is a little clunky but it's certainly decisive. The best part of this vehicle for me are the excellent front bucket seats (you'll see them in the video on test-drives.biz), which prove to be brilliant long-distance companions, ensuring that we arrive at Domain des Ormes, our holiday destination in Dol de Bretagne, very much relaxed.

I find the power steering a little too sensitive and light for my liking, but it has a tight turning circle, experienced when needing to double back on myself at a mini roundabout.

Its dashboard has been thoughtfully designed so that it does not intrude on the front passenger, allowing for plenty of legroom. The powerful radio even picks up BBC Radio 4 in Dinard and French radio on our return home.

The Peugeot 208 Hatchback 1.6 VTi Allure.

My wife, baby daughter and I carry a fair bit of luggage and the Pug is full to bursting. Three sizeable suitcases are crammed into the boot and there is space for the pushchair on top, if all the wheels are removed.

According to Autocar, this Slovakia-built Peugeot is not polished enough but, and whether this is because I am privileged enough to be driving a range-topping model, I am impressed with the styling, the chrome around the grille and windows, and its distinctive look, not to mention the high-quality interior. The air conditioning is a welcome feature when it hits 30 degrees Celsius on our final day together.

New price range: £9,995 - £18,495.

Model tested: £15,000 appro.

Peugeot 208 Hatchback 1.6 VTi Allure 5d. Economy: 47 mpg. Power: 120bhp. 0-60mph: 10.9secs. Top speed: 118mph.

Council plans to 'inspire a generation'

THE Vale Council has responded to a plea by Coun Claire Curtis, Labour councillor for Dyfan ward, Barry, to ensure that the 'Olympic legacy' is upheld in the borough.

A report by the leisure and tourism team lists programmes run by the council and its partners to achieve the goal of 'inspiring a generation'.

These include: the 5x60 Scheme, the Dragon Sports Scheme and the council's disability sport development officer, funded via Sport Wales.

The report adds that the council's link with Sport Wales is reviewed on an annual basis and is worth approximately £500,000.

It states: "New sports such as handball and water polo have been trialled in the Vale as part of the 5x60 programme and free swimming programme respectively.

"In addition, both Penarth Leisure Centre and the Colcot Sports Centre have hosted wheelchair rugby events.

"These initiatives often provide the platform to introduce new sports to an area – such as handball, volleyball and basketball – as well as activities children and young people enjoy, such as street dance and dodgeball.

"Future aims include developing more junior opportunities in Olympic sports, such as badminton, table tennis and disability swimming."

A partnership contract with Parkwood Leisure has provided an additional £1,000,000 of capital funding to increase the use of sports facilities.

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Aussie rugby legend coaches Vale pupils during his visit

Aussie rugby legend David Campese passes on his expertise to potential Welsh rugby stars of the future at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.

YOUNG people from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg were recently given opportunities to be coached and take part in unique rugby sessions delivered by Australian rugby legend David Campese.

Organised by Peter Griffiths of PG10 Coaching, the sessions were aimed at increasing participation in sport and leaving a legacy in Welsh sport after the Olympics.

Children and young people of all abilities and ages were taken through their paces by one of the world's greatest rugby players and a 1991 World Cup winner.

Campese made 101 appearances for the green and gold of Australia, scoring 64 tries, and was on hand to give tips, help promote an active lifestyle and inspire the next generation to get involved in sport.

Following the rugby sessions, Campese provided an inspirational Q and A for the pupils and hosted an evening at the Bear Hotel in Cowbridge where he spoke to guests about his career and his views on the sport of rugby.

Peter Griffiths said: "The opportunities on offer were a huge success and a fantastic opportunity for young people to be coached by one of the world's greatest and most decorated rugby players, David Campese.

"After the success of the Olympics, PG10 Coaching is committed to providing more and more sporting opportunities for children and young people to get involved in sport and help leave a legacy in Wales and afar.

"This will also provide young people with the opportunities to develop new skills but, more importantly, allow young people who find accessing sport difficult an opportunity to get active and lead a healthy lifestyle."

Glamorgan Hunt Golf Day has an air of the Ryder Cup

The winning team on the day.

The runners-up, with individual winner Jamie Gibson on the far left.

THE rescheduled annual Glamorgan Hunt golf day was held recently at Cottrell Park, on the Mackintosh course.

Unusually this summer, the weather was warm and sunny with little wind, in fact perfect golf conditions.

Nine teams took part, but with only two ladies amongst them, Sarah Morris and Judi Pickard of Southerndown Golf Club.

Judging by the scores, it must have been like competing for places in the Ryder Cup – only two points separated the first and second teams, a further 10 points to third.

The Priory was the winning team, with Rhys Williams, Matthew Gill, Pat Regan and Ian Pearcey.

Second team were the WEGS, with Keith Gibson, Jamie Gibson, Peter Croke and Peter Jenkins. Third team were Maes Glas Vets, with Mike King, Roger Jones, Bill Philpin and Martin David.

The individual prize for the best stapleford score went to Jamie Gibson with 41 points, who also won the longest drive competition.

Sarah Morris won the longest ladies' drive and she also had nearest the pin on the 15th hole.

Roger Jones had nearest the pin on the fourth, Keith James on the eighth and David Llancadle Williams on the 12th. **GP**

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Model shown are Yaris Edition 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual £11,795. Metallic paint £495 extra. AYGO Fire 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual £9,635. Metallic paint £495 extra. Prices correct at time of going to press. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail sales of Yaris (excluding Ti and Hybrid), AYGO (excluding Entry model), iQ, Verso, Avensis and RAV4 when ordered between 1 October and 30 November 2012 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5LZ before 31 March 2013 on a 3 year Access/Toyota (PCP) plan with 0%-20% deposits. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Excess mileage over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile on iQ, AYGO and Yaris, 8p per mile on Verso and Avensis and 12p per mile on RAV4. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and Conditions apply. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.
Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Yaris Edition 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual: Urban 48.7 (5.8), Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3), Combined 58.9 (4.8). CO_2 Emissions 111g/km; AYGO Fire 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual: Urban 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 74.3 (3.8), Combined 65.7 (4.3). CO_2 Emissions 99g/km.

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GEM sport

COWBRIDGE RFC'S 'TOPSY-TURVY' TIME

IT has been a topsy turvy time for the Cowbridge RFC firsts.

On Saturday, September 22 we entertained Llandaff on a beautiful sunny day at the Athletic Field. Cowbridge were 7-0 up after one minute with Richie Howsen's try in the corner, superbly converted by No10 Carwyn Morgan.

A penalty apiece left Cowbridge leading 10-3 at half-time. With the Llandaff pack dominant they took the lead halfway through the second half with a penalty followed by a try and clinched the game with a second try two minutes before the end.

Cowbridge almost scored in the dying seconds but were held up over the line and penalised. Final score: Cowbridge 10, Llandaff 16.

The following Saturday we travelled to Pyle for the first round of the SWALEC Bowl and in a ding dong battle on another beautiful day ran out winners 13-8.

Despite the home side having a much bigger pack Cowbridge matched them up front and could have notched up a bigger score if handling had been a bit better.

Last Saturday it was to Barry on another lovely day overlooking the Bristol Channel.

Due to a long injury list Cowbridge had to opt for uncontested scrums.

Cowbridge were almost on the scoreboard within seconds but the penalty kick hit the posts. They continued the pressure on Barry with some fine threequarter movement and Barry were hemmed in their half for the first 10 minutes.

However, it was Barry who took the lead after 13 minutes with a penalty from the 22. And that was to be the story for most of the game with some of the fussiest refereeing I can recall.

A further three penalties to Barry and one to Cowbridge from the boot of No10 Carwyn Morgan and it was 12-3 to Barry at half-time.

Early in the second half Barry barged over for the only try of the match and converted. Cowbridge responded with a second penalty from Morgan, but it was Barry who nailed the game with two further penalties.

Cowbridge had opportunities in this game, particularly when Barry were down to 13 men for two yellow cards for high tackles but an injury to Jac Williams left Cowbridge with 14 men for much of the second half.

The Cowbridge defence was ferocious throughout against a much bigger Barry pack but the flood of penalties proved too much.

Final score: Barry 25, Cowbridge 6.

This Saturday it's another tough fixture away to Wattstown followed by a home match against Penygraig on the 20th and then it's the second round of the SWALEC Bowl at home against Bryncethin on October 27.

It was great to see Cowbrdge Seconds in action last Saturday against Pyle. On a glorious sunny October afternoon in an entertaining game Pyle ran out winners by 10-23.

Both teams chose to attack but after eight minutes Pyle were 6-0 up from two penalties. Hooker Luke Adams having a run out in the seconds had shown that he wasn't there for the pretty stuff with a bulldozing run nearly to the line.

There was a rich mix of passes cannoning off heads or to no one at all combined with good play from both teams.

On 17 minutes second row Rupert Pembridge found the pace too much and gave way to Paul Robling.

On 25 minutes a great dive pass from scrum half Tom Davies, allowed centre and captain Huw Llewellyn to straighten the line and, with support from cousin Rhys, take play 30 metres upfield.

From the maul the forwards drove on and Adams crossed for an unconverted try. Pyle replied with a penalty and then a neat try from a pick up at the back of the scrum.

Cowbridge nearly scored again just before the break through No8 Rhys Jones, but at half-time it was 5-16.

Refreshed, Rupert Pembridge came back on for prop John Bissell. Cowbridge started well and great passing nearly put right wing Rob Langdon clear. As the ball was recycled it was young centre Harry Williams who nearly broke through to the line.

Cowbridge's back row of Kevin Parsons and Will Bruton were tackling everything and No8 Jones was making some yards.

A turning point came as Adams was sent off for throwing a punch in reaction to some foul play. But minutes later alert Paul Robling took a quick tap penalty and fed Connor Boys, who made a charging run to the corner to score an unconverted try.

Right at the end Pyle scored their own try in the corner and put over a well-struck conversion.

So an enjoyable game, in which it was good see a mix of youth and experience. Let's hope for more soon!

RV/RK

Local under-7s in action

TWO Cowbridge under-7s teams travelled to Llandaff and all but one of the games were a close contest.

Team one began well, with Joe Arentsen scoring after a period of pressure and James Lord weaving through the defence to score a fine try.

However, Llandaff responded in kind, but Henry Whitehouse found space to break through the defence and the scores were level at half-time.

Vital tags were missed early in the second half and Cowbridge quickly conceded tries, and ended up losing 8-3.

The team played much better in the second game, with Joe Arentsen darting down the pitch to score two excellent tries. Llandaff again fought back but two tries from Henry Whitehouse kept Cowbridge in the game. Joe Arentsen had another great run which set up James Lord to make the final score 5-5.

Team two started well, with Osian Bruce running in a try from their first possession. However, some poor Cowbridge defensive work and excellent Llandaff running found the home team 3-1 up at the interval.

Some stern words and defensive instructions saw Cowbridge retain the ball and excellent tagging throughout the side saw them keep a clean sheet during the second half.

Two more tries from Osian and a superb run down the length of the touchline from Joe Funtek tipped the game in Cowbridge's favour at 4-3.

Team two's second game started in similar fashion with Osian opening the scoring, only for Llandaff to run in three unanswered scores. A blistering run from James Collingridge on half-time brought the score line closer at 3-2 to the home side.

The second half was another even contest, but after fantastic runs by Mabli Davies and Henry Pugh, with Osian being on their shoulders in support, he brought up his second hat-trick of the day. Llandaff came back and were leading again by two, only for Ben Stephenson to show great pace and vision to touchdown in the corner.

With the last play of the game, the support play of Will Brennan paid off as he scored the equaliser as time expired. Final score: 6-6.

PS

Cowbridge Darts League

THE league results for Tuesday, October 2 saw The Edmondes 'A' continue with their strong running by beating the Farmers Arms 8-1.

It was not a great evening for the first appearance of the While Lion, Ystradown, beaten 8-1 by Llanharry. The Hare and Hounds defeated the Cross Inn 6-3 and Edmondes 'B' defeated the Carne Arms 6-3.

The next league matches will be played on Tuesday October 16. Edmondes 'A' v Cross Inn, Old Post Ladies v While Lion, Farmers Arms v Highwaymann Inn, Carne Arms v Hare and Hounds and Llanharry v Edmondes 'B'.

All matches start at 8.30pm and spectators are always welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at: cowbridgedarts@googlemail.com, up to date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

RM

'Ding-dong battle' for Cowbridge under-9s

COWBRIDGE under-9s entertained Llanishen in what proved to be a ding dong battle with a try, scored with the last move of the match, ensuring the spoils were shared.

The match was played over four quarters and ended 12 tries apiece, which was a fair reflection of the contest.

Quarter one ended three tries apiece with the Cowbridge scores coming from Lewys Robins, Harry Treharne and Robbie Brown. Quarter two was edged by Cowbridge four tries to two with Ruben Davies scoring twice, Alfie Rees and Finlay Sullivan also crossing the whitewash.

However, Quarter three saw Llanishen fight back to securing that quarter 4-2 with the Cowbridge tries coming from Harry Treharne and Lewys Robins.

With the match all square the last quarter reflected the overall contest with the lead changing hands continuously to ensure a close finish.

With the very last move of the match Llanishen touched down in the corner to secure the draw. The Cowbridge tries came from Finlay Brace, Ruben Davies and Finlay Sullivan.

There was plenty of commitment from the whole squad which was demonstrated with a few bumps and bruises suffered in the cause but a very enjoyable game was played in good spirit and was a credit to both sides.

The under-9s have adapted well in the first month of contact and remain a real attacking threat with a combination of real pace and effective ball carriers.

As you would expect the defensive aspects will take longer to master but more importantly at this stage all the boys are enjoying their rugby and look forward to the matches.

The coaching team would like to thank the continuing support of the under-9s' parents, particularly over the last couple of weeks when some of the coaches have been away. Your support is very appreciated.

Squad: Robbie Brown, Will Ryan, Ethan Francis, Alfie Rees, Harry Treharne, Finlay Brace, Finlay Ball, Archie Lloyd, Ruben Davies, Akka Guwy, Tom Collingbridge, Lewys Robins, Finlay Sullivan, Ben Hardy, Luke Treadwell, Rhys Pritchard, Iolo Davies, James Jones, Sam Payne, Will Harris, Ollie Jones and Tom Brennan.

MF

PADDLE BOARD LESSONS

PORTHCAWL is set to become a major centre for the world's fastest growing water sport, paddle boarding, or stand up surfing.

Adventure Wales has established a stand up surfing school in the country and is showcasing the sport at Rest Bay on Saturday, October 20. There you can get free advice and workshops about a sport that the experts say will be bigger than surfing.

Adventures director Nigel Jones has got together with Reach to secure funding for a package to encourage first timers to enjoy both coast and countryside in a single weekend.

Rhiannon Hardiman of the REACH team said: "Innovations like this can propel rural Bridgend onto the world map and REACH is delighted to be supporting Adventures in making it happen."

For more information, contact 07872 823366, or visit: adventureswales.co.uk.

GM